

Fighting erupts at Beirut refugee camp

BEIRUT (R) — Heavy fighting erupted at a Palestinian refugee camp in Beirut on Sunday and two girls, one Palestinian and one Shi'ite, were reported killed. Palestinian sources said a 15-year-old girl was killed and five people, including a four-year-old child, were wounded when Shi'ite Amal militiamen fired anti-tank rockets and rifles and mortars at the Bourj Al Barajneh camp. Amal said a Shi'ite girl was killed in return fire directed at Shi'ite neighbourhoods. Both sides said the fighting was some of the worst since Syrian troops deployed in west Beirut on Feb. 22. The violence forced the closure of the main airport road, which runs past Bourj Al Barajneh, for the first time since it was reopened after the Syrian deployment. The airport has been shut since January when insurers withdrew cover for passengers. Amal sources said the clashes flared when Palestinians attempted a sortie from the battered camp's "Mashouq" entrance on the airport highway. Over 7,000 Syrian troops moved into west Beirut last month. They occupied Beirut airport just south of the city, but did not deploy in the refugee camps or nearby Shi'ite suburbs.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراية"

Israelis close W. Bank school

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli authorities said Sunday they ordered a Palestinian school, in the occupied West Bank to be closed for 10 days after pupils stoned Israeli vehicles. The United Nations-run school in the Palestinian refugee camp of Jalazoun, north of Jerusalem, was shut on Saturday in response to last week's stone-throwing incident, an Israeli statement said. Israeli occupation authorities frequently close Palestinian schools and colleges in the West Bank after anti-Israeli demonstrations. Last week, Israeli troops carried out an overnight search of Birzeit University and questioned its president as part of a "crack-down" on West Bank educational institutions, viewed by Israel as centres of Palestinian nationalism. The closed Jalazoun school is run by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine refugees.

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Talks begin today on free zones

AMMAN (Petra) — Free Zones Corporation (FZC) Director General Yassin Al Kayed announced Sunday that a meeting would begin on Monday on cooperation between the Kuwait-based Arab Securities and Investments Corporation and the Arab Free-Zones Corporation (AFZC). Mr. Kayed said the three-day meeting would be opened by Finance Minister Hanna Odeh and would discuss various problems related to the smooth operation of the free zones in Arab states and coordination between the AFZC and the ASIC. Attending the meeting will be directors general of free zones in Syria, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Tunisia and Morocco in addition to Jordan, and representatives of the Arab Council for Arab Economic Unity and the ministries of finance and customs and trade, industry and supply.

Iraqi jets raid Iranian oilfield

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi warplanes on Sunday raided Iran's Ardesheer oilfield in the northern Gulf, 80 kilometres west of Kharg Island oil terminal, a military spokesman said. All the aircraft returned to base safely, leaving installations ablaze, he said. The Ardesheer oilfield has been attacked several times in the past three years. Sunday's raid broke a month-long lull of Iraqi air force action against Iranian economic targets.

Cairo warns against religious clashes

CAIRO (R) — Egypt, in the wake of clashes between Muslims and Christians, said on Sunday police would stop any group threatening the country's religious harmony. "The police force will not allow any group to break the law and will take firm and decisive actions against anyone who tries to harm the country's internal security or religious harmony," said Interior Minister Zaki Badr, quoted by the Middle East News Agency (MENA).

Israel jails disabled Palestinian

LOD, Israel (R) — An Israeli military court Sunday jailed for 15 years a Palestinian from the occupied Gaza Strip who lost an arm, a leg and his eyesight in a bomb explosion meant for soldiers at a hitch-hiking post. Fauzi Yonas Abed Nassarallah, 23, of Gaza, was found guilty of belonging to a six-member group that carried out several bomb attacks against the military occupation. One bomb injured five people at a bus stop near Tel Aviv in 1985. Another last year blew up in Nassarallah's hands.

U.S. 'set up secret contra aid unit'

WASHINGTON (R) — The White House, fearing a congressional ban on aid to Nicaraguan rebels, may have set up a secret organisation in 1983 to continue to deliver the assistance, the Washington Post said Sunday. The Post said congressional investigators were probing the possibility that it was this support network that handled not only aid to the contra rebels but also organised controversial arms shipments to Iran (Related stories on page 2).

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King, after talks with Mubarak, renews call for Iran-Iraq peace

Egypt in contact with PLO to 'coordinate positions and facilitate' int'l conference

Combined agency dispatches

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein, after four hours of talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, called on Iran and Iraq Sunday to end their six-and-a-half-year-old war and start peace negotiations and renewed Jordan's call for an international conference on the Middle East under U.N. auspices.

"We still support Iraq and hope the war ends soon and the warring sides start peace negotiations," the King told reporters at the end of a one-day visit. The King, who flew home after the visit, called on Iran and Iraq to exchange prisoners of war and return to their international borders as the first step towards finding a negotiated solution to their conflict.

Apart from the Iran-Iraq war, the King and President Mubarak, meeting for the 15th time after Jordan resumed diplomatic relations with Egypt in 1984, also discussed efforts towards finding a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Speaking to reporters after their talks, which included a closed meeting between the King and President

Mubarak, both leaders emphasised their support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The King reiterated Jordan's stand that an international conference attended by all parties involved in the Middle East problem, including the PLO, could resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict. Mr. Mubarak echoed the King's words and said Egypt was in contact with the PLO in an effort to "coordinate positions and facilitate the convening of the (international) conference." He did not elaborate.

"Jordan's position is clear," said the King. "It demands the

convening of an international conference attended by the parties concerned, including the PLO, and the five (permanent) members of the (U.N.) Security Council." The King said he was not in contact with the PLO over efforts to convene the called-for conference.

On another issue, the King said he had no plans to visit the U.S. in the near future. "I have no intention to visit America for the time being," he said.

One of the issues that figure high in efforts to find a common formula acceptable to all is that of Palestinian representation in the conference. The King on Sunday reaffirmed Jordan's recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The King's talks with President Mubarak over a working luncheon was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

As the King and President

(Continued on page 2)

France to help Gulf peace efforts and work for Mideast conference

MUSCAT (AP) — French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond on Sunday assured the Omani leadership that his country would contribute to efforts by the U.N. secretary-general to end the Iran-Iraq war, diplomatic sources reported.

Mr. Raimond arrived in the sultanate Saturday on a 3-day visit. He is also scheduled to visit the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to deliver the same assurances to leaders in Abu Dhabi, the sources said.

The UAE is the current chairman of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) which also groups Oman, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and Bahrain. The GCC governments have been exerting efforts to mediate a settlement between their two northern neighbours.

They also back efforts by Javier Perez de Cuellar to push for a peaceful end to the war through the U.N. Security Council.

In an interview published Sunday by the UAE state-run newspaper Al Itihad, Mr. Raimond

expressed hope that Mr. Perez de Cuellar would succeed and called for efforts to "restore peace despite present difficulties."

Mr. Raimond stressed France was "determined to have normalised relations with Tehran to conform to Iran's place in the (Gulf) region and the history binding our two countries together."

He said that problems between Paris and Tehran included the "difficult and complicated" negotiations on the settlement of financial issues dating from the era of the late Shah.

French policy towards Tehran, he said, was being pursued "in all clarity and without bargaining of any type, conducted in the framework of respect to our principles and commitments in the region to the countries with whom we have strong bonds."

France also has good relations with Iraq to whom it supplies arms.

Mr. Raimond refused to discuss the issue of six French hostages held in Lebanon in the interview with Al Itihad, de-

scribing the situation as "critical," according to the daily.

The diplomatic sources said that Mr. Raimond was also interested in exchanging views with the Gulf capitals on the Middle East peace-making process in light of the Brussels declaration by the 12-member European Community (EC) backing the proposal for a settlement at an international conference.

In their Feb. 23 declaration, EC members also backed the continuation of a Euro-Arab dialogue especially between the GCC and the EC.

In the interview with Al Itihad, which was published in Arabic, Mr. Raimond was quoted as saying the Brussels declaration on the international conference was "an important step within the framework of encouraging negotiations between the concerned parties."

He also said that the EC and his country in particular are currently contacting Middle East countries to promote the idea.

Assad meets Carter amid media attack on U.S. policy

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter held what he described as "a very pleasant" meeting with President Hafez Al Assad Sunday, a day after he flew in saying he would urge Syria to use its influence to free American hostages in Lebanon.

After a three-hour meeting with Mr. Assad at the Muhajirine presidential palace, Mr. Carter told reporters that he had "a very pleasant, broad-ranging discussion" with the Syrian president, whose government is a main ally of the Soviet Union in the Middle East.

He refused to elaborate on the topics discussed and when pressed by reporters to say if he brought up the issue of the eight American captives, he said: "I think it would be better to let President Assad reveal the subjects we discussed."

Jibrane Kourieh, the Syrian president's spokesman, said talks between Mr. Assad and Mr. Carter "focused on international relations, the situation in the Middle East and its developments as well as the Lebanese question." He gave no other details.

The former president and his wife, Rosalynn, flew in from Cairo Saturday on the third stop of a private Middle East tour that also took them to Algeria. They are expected to fly on to Jordan Tuesday and stop in Israel later in the week before returning home.

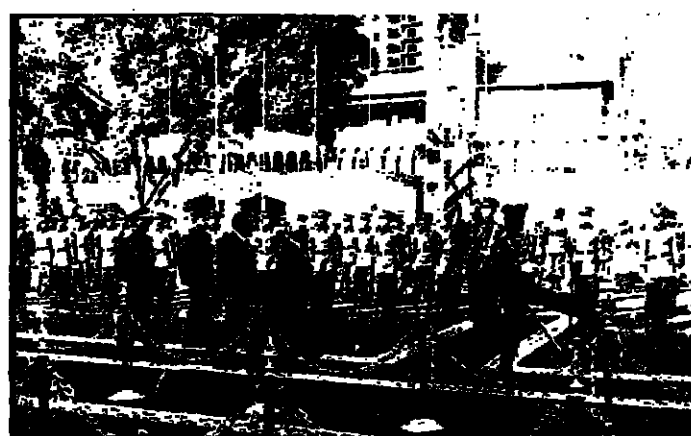
Asked on Saturday whether he would request Syrian help in freeing the hostages, Mr. Carter said if Damascus could provide information on them or exert any influence on their captors he would ask and expect Syria to do so.

Earlier, the Syrian press criticised American support for Israel.

The semi-official newspaper Al Thawra said the United States was interested only in Israeli, not Arab, interests.

"Washington can never abandon its strategic ally and can never stop its military, financial and political support (for Israel)," the newspaper said.

The government newspaper Tishrin voiced suspicion of an international conference on Arab-Israeli peace as sponsored by Washington and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.



His Majesty King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak inspect a guard of honour at the outset of the King's visit to Cairo on Sunday and later hold talks at the presidential palace (Petra photos)

Saddam Hussein: Peace is the only option left for Iran

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said Sunday a peace agreement was the only way out of the six-year-old Gulf war after the collapse of Iran's "year of decisiveness."

In a speech marking the end of the Persian calendar year Saturday, President Hussein said a five-point plan repeatedly offered by him was the only option left for the Iraqis.

The speech was carried by the Iraqi News Agency and broadcast by Baghdad Radio. Rejecting the Iraqi offers and other peace formulas advanced by world bodies, Iranian leaders last summer vowed the war would be ended in Iran's favour with a "final offensive" that would overthrow the Iraqi government by March 21.

But a series of cross-border assaults, three of them east of the southern Iraqi city of Basra this year, failed to materialise as the promised "final, fateful blow." Iran now is believed to have reverted to a long-drawn war of attrition instead of a massive onslaught.

Iranian Prime Minister Hussein Musavi said two weeks ago Iran has devoted "huge resources and energy for future moves."

Iran's official news agency also

quoted Mr. Musavi as saying that "it was a fallacy to think that these plans were drawn up only to cover the outstanding victories gained during the current Iranian year."

This was taken by Iraq and Iranian dissident groups opposed to the Tehran regime as an admission that the "year of decisiveness" had failed.

President Hussein warned his frontline troops on Sunday to expect further Iranian attacks to spoil celebrations being organised throughout Iraq to mark the occasion of Iran's failure.

"It was clear to all of us the fighting this time would be long and severe with more blood flowing than in previous battles and that we would lose more of our loved ones than we have before," he said.

Iran has put Iranian casualties in the latest fighting at 250,000 men killed or wounded.

As the president's speech was delivered, thousands of Iraqis gathered for celebrations in streets in cities and towns across Iraq.

President Hussein, in power since 1979, injected a note of caution saying: "The enemy, after this date, will try to spoil your celebrations with an attempt to

prove its existence..."

He said Iran should realise now there was no alternative to peace and he reiterated his readiness to negotiate under the five conditions he had previously laid down.

The conditions are withdrawal of troops to recognised boundaries, exchange of war prisoners, signing of a non-aggression agreement, non-interference in the internal affairs of each country and security for the entire Gulf region.

President Hussein said the Iranian offensive was a conspiracy by five states, including some from the Arab homeland.

He did not name the states, but Iraq in the past has accused the United States, Israel, Syria and Libya of backing Iran.

He said these states betted on Iran's "year of decision," based their calculations not on Iranian plans, "but on what some viewed as unrevealed parts of the wide-scale conspiracy."

But the outcome had been calculated from the "technical side only," with the belief that "thriving unannounced parties and using arms unfamiliar in type and magnitude were sufficient to achieve what previous Iranian attempts had failed to score."

Iran warns U.S. against 'interference' in the Gulf

LONDON (R) — Iran on Sunday denied as baseless reports that it intended to threaten shipping in the Gulf and warned the United States that any interference in the region would meet a strong response from Tehran, Tehran Radio said.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman, quoted by the radio, said Iran would continue to deploy "all its legitimate means" to stem the cause of tension in the Gulf.

The U.S. State Department said two days ago that Tehran had been told of U.S. concern over Iranian anti-ship missiles posing a threat to the free flow of oil from the Gulf.

U.S. officials say Iran has acquired powerful Chinese-made anti-ship "Silkworm" missiles, posing a greater threat than missiles used previously against merchant vessels.

The Iranian ministry spokesman, quoted in a broadcast moni-

tored by the BBC, said reports that Iran intends to threaten shipping in the Gulf were baseless.

"In conjunction with this misleading propaganda, America has already paved the ground to achieve its expansionist and hegemonistic intentions, aiming to build up its military presence in the region," he was quoted as saying.

The policy of attacking oil tankers and other merchant vessels had been initiated by Iraq, he added.

Several hundred vessels have been confirmed hit in the Gulf by Iran and Iraq since early 1984 in the so-called tanker war, an offshoot of their six-year-long ground conflict.

The Iranian spokesman said Iran had deployed all its legitimate means to stem the cause of tension and instability, and shall continue to do so.

Israel reports Lebanon clash amid rising resistance threat

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli soldiers killed two guerrillas in the South Lebanon in the fourth violent clash between the sides in two days, the Israeli army command claimed Sunday.

The incident occurred northwest of the village of Hasbaya, 12 kilometres north of the Israeli border, the army said.

Saturday night's clash in the eastern sector of Israel's self-designated "security zone" in South Lebanon was the first in that area in several months.

The army communiqué released no other details about the incident.

Military sources quoted a senior military officer in the army's northern command as saying he was "not optimistic" that Israel's northern border would remain quiet.

He said hundreds of Lebanese and Palestinian militiamen had come from Beirut to South Leba-

non after the Syrian deployment in the Lebanese capital and the guerrillas might act against Israel, the sources said on condition of anonymity.

On Friday, guerrillas fired several Soviet-designed Katyusha rockets into northern Israel.

Also Friday, two Israeli soldiers were wounded in a roadside bomb blast near the village of Bent Jball, four kilometres from the Israeli border.

On the same day, three Israeli warplanes struck a building once used by the mainstream Fateh organisation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), according to police in Lebanon.

Last week, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin predicted increased attacks on Israeli troops and their South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia allies by the Iranian-backed Hizbollah organisation.

Soviet official questions U.S. sincerity in missiles talks

MOSCOW (AP) — A top Soviet arms control official said it was beginning to seem that the United States was not serious about eliminating medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe, the newspaper Izvestia reported Sunday.

It is the strongest Soviet criticism of the U.S. position on the issue since Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev said in February he was ready for such an agreement.

"There is increasing evidence that the United States does not really desire the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe, that the 'zero option' was a bluff from the very outset," Victor Karpov, head of the Foreign Ministry's arms control office, told Izvestia.

Mr. Karpov said Geneva arms negotiators could reach an agreement on scrapping the missiles within the next few months "but this requires the desire and goodwill of both sides."

Mr. Gorbachev's decision to separate the issue of medium-

range forces from space and strategic weapons was designed to revive the stalled Geneva talks.

But Soviet officials have been increasingly critical of the U.S. response to Mr. Gorbachev's offer.

In the Izvestia interview, Mr. Karpov charged that the American negotiators wanted an agreement that would simply allow the United States to replace its medium-range weapons with short-range missiles.

If U.S. officials "wish to palm off on us a scrap of paper as a cover for the preservation of the U.S. nuclear missile potential in Europe, we will not agree to that," Mr. Karpov said.

The idea of eliminating medium-range missiles, the so-called "zero option," was broached by U.S. President Ronald Reagan in October during his Iceland summit with Mr. Gorbachev.

The two leaders failed to reach accord in Reykjavik.

French relatives appeal for release of hostages

BEIRUT (R) — Relatives of four French hostages in Lebanon, two of whom started their third year in captivity Sunday, appealed in letters for kidnappers to release their loved ones and recognise their innocence.

An Nahar newspaper printed the letters from the wives of diplomats Marcel Carton and Marcel Fontaine, abducted on March 22, 1985, and journalist Jean-Paul Kauffmann, seized two months later.

They are held by the pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad (holy war) group, which has demanded the release of 17 Arabs jailed in Kuwait in connection with bomb attacks there.

The women appealed to two Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim leaders, Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual mentor of the pro-Iran Hizbollah (Party of God), and Sheikh Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddin, vice-president of the Supreme Shi'ite Council.

"We appeal to you to continue working with all your power to help secure your brothers Marcel Carton and Marcel Fontaine, who have been away from their families for two years, and Jean-

Paul Kauffmann," the wives said. Denise Carton, Elaine Fontaine and Joelle Kauffmann told their husbands, who are among five Frenchmen held hostage in Lebanon, not to lose hope or courage.

"We think of you and love you very much. You are innocent victims only because you are French," they said.

"We hope your kidnappers hear our appeal and carry to you our love and facilitate humanitarian bids for your release. The law of God does not allow innocent to pay with their lives for mistakes they did not commit," the women said.

On Tuesday, kidnappers of French hostage Jean-Louis Normandin said appeals by Fadlallah, Shamseddin and Normandin's family were partly why they extended for a week a threat to kill the television crewman.

Normandin's 60-year-old father, Marc, arrived by ferry

Saturday and made a brief appeal on Lebanese television for his son.

"He came to Beirut to carry out his job as a television technician. He is only a victim and we ask his kidnappers to understand this," Normandin said Saturday night.

Local newspapers said he might meet Fadlallah and Shamseddin before the new Tuesday deadline for his son's "death sentence."

Normandin, 35, was a member of a four-man French Antenne-2 television crew that was seized by the Revolutionary Justice Organisation in March 1986 after filming a Hizbollah rally.

The group released the other three crew members after Paris improved relations with Iran and paid back \$330 million of a billion dollar loan in 1975 from Iran to France.

Both the Revolutionary Justice Organisation and Islamic Jihad also demand an end to French military supplies to Iraq, Iran's enemy in the 6-1/2-year-old Gulf war.

Islamic Jihad said in February 1986 it killed a sixth French hostage, Michel Seurat, a sociologist and an Arabist.

King Fahd to visit Britain on Tuesday

LONDON (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia begins a four-day state visit on Tuesday which will focus on redressing Britain's large trade surplus with the kingdom and reaffirming ties between the traditionally close countries.

British officials said King Fahd may ask Britain to restore diplomatic relations with Syria, broken off by London last October after "evidence" in the trial of Nizar Hindawi allegedly showed Syrian agents were behind a plan to bomb an Israeli airliner.

But one official said the king would be told Britain still needs "clear and sustainable evidence" that the Syrians have renounced state-sponsored terrorism. So far they haven't.

Britain will stress its support for an international peace conference on the Middle East and its concern over alleged human rights abuses by Israel in the occupied West Bank and Gaza, the officials told Reuters.

The Saudi leader will hold talks with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and meet Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip during the visit, his first to Britain since he assumed power in June 1982.

King Fahd will be accompanied by his trade, defence, oil and health ministers, who will hold talks with their British counterparts.

Relations between the two countries have generally been warm. But they were strained last year by the deportation of 35 British nurses from the kingdom for illegal drinking and the publication of a letter by a retired British ambassador describing Saudi Arabians as incompetent and arrogant.

Officials said that while these tensions had eased, Britain would want to discuss the case of an Irish woman and her British husband accused of murdering an Irish woman in Saudi Arabia last April.

Peter and Monica Hall, in prison in the Saudi city of Taif since their arrest in July, could be publicly executed under Islamic Law if convicted. No date has been set for their trial.

Saudi Arabia is Britain's largest export market in the Middle East. Britain exported \$1.5 billion (\$2.4 billion) worth of goods to Saudi Arabia last year while British imports from that country in the same period totalled \$436 million (\$693 million).

Trade officials will discuss what countertrade Britain can offer in return for Riyadh giving London its biggest-ever arms export order.

Under the \$5 billion (\$8 billion) deal signed last year, Saudi Arabia has agreed to buy 132 warplanes including 72 Tornado fighters.

Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazer is likely to discuss oil price stabilisation but Britain would not change its refusal to limit its North Sea oil production and exports, officials said.

Khomeini reportedly duped U.S. over arms

WASHINGTON (R) — Iran's leader, the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, personally directed an elaborate scheme to trick the United States into selling arms to Tehran to fight its war against Iraq, a U.S. magazine reported Sunday.

The U.S. News and World Report story, based on what it said were sources in the Middle East, disputes the Reagan administration's version of the arms scandal, which erupted last November.

"It was not the United States that made overtures to Iran, but the reverse," the magazine said.

"And the Iranians had no real interest in strategic relations with America."

"Their goal was simple: They wanted weapons to prosecute their war with Iraq," it said. Iran and Iraq have waged a bloody war since 1980 and U.S.-made, supplied to pre-revolutionary Iran.

The White House had no immediate comment.

The magazine said the operation duped not only the Americans but the Israelis, who sent the initial shipments of U.S. arms in late 1985, and Iranian, Saudi

Arabian and other arms dealers who acted as middlemen.

It said Khomeini, Iran's ageing spiritual leader, had reports circulated of his failing health and of an intense factional struggle between pro-West and fundamentalist forces in Iran to dupe the United States into making overtures about opening relations with a post-Khomeini Iran.

Once the administration swallowed the bait, the story said, Iranian officials offered to help free American hostages held by pro-Iranian extremists in Lebanon in exchange for U.S. arms and intelligence information.

The magazine also said that "homocidal forces had arrested some 200 Iranian demonstrators as they marched to a Tehran hotel last May to take hostage Oliver North, Robert McFarlane and others on a secret U.S. mission."

Col. North, fired from his job on the National Security Council last November, and Mr. McFarlane, a former national security adviser, had flown to Tehran hoping a final arms shipment would bring about the release of all remaining U.S. hostages but they left empty-handed.

North and Poindexter 'to stress their patriotism'

NEW YORK (R) — Two key figures in the Iran-contra scandal, preparing to face possible indictments, plan to stress in their defence that they were patriots putting President Reagan's policies into effect, the New York Times said Sunday.

Former National Security Council officials John Poindexter and Oliver North have both reassured friends that they would be exonerated if all the facts were known, the newspaper reported, saying it had interviewed about a dozen friends and associates of the two men.

Adm. Poindexter, the former presidential security adviser, was described as especially bitter over his treatment by the White House and allegations that he was "freelancing" without the knowledge of his superiors, the Times said.

Col. North, a former Security Council aide fired the same day that Adm. Poindexter resigned from the White House last November, was described as bursting to tell his story, confident his superiors had known what he was doing, the paper said.

One close friend described Col. North as resentful of the White House and "not about to fall on his sword," it said.

Mr. Reagan has said he knew nothing about the diversion of money from the Iran arms sales to Nicaraguan contra rebels and would have reacted in anger if he had been told.

Adm. Poindexter and Col. North have declined to speak about the affair to White House, congressional and Justice Department investigators as well as reporters.

Eban says moves against S. Africa just beginning

TEL AVIV (AP) — Former Foreign Minister Abba Eban said he expected more Israeli measures against South Africa following a recent cabinet decision to impose limited sanctions on Pretoria.

"I think this was the minimum that had to be done to put our position on record," Eban said in an interview with Israel Radio broadcast Saturday.

The 10-man inner cabinet of senior ministers voted Wednesday not to sign any new military contracts and to curb trade and cultural exchanges with South Africa.

The decision came less than two weeks before the United States was due to release a report on the volume of trade, including arms sales, with South Africa by foreign countries.

Observers believe Israel will be reprimanded in the report.

Eban indicated that Israel had become too economically dependent on its arms sales to South Africa.

Earlier this week a government official said thousands of people could lose their jobs if Israel stopped selling arms to South Africa.

King renews call for Gulf peace

(Continued from page 1)

Mubarak held a tete-a-tete meeting, Mr. Rifai held a separate round of talks with his Egyptian counterpart Atief Sidki. It was attended by the members of the delegation accompanying the King. On the Egyptian side it was attended by Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Meguid, Information Minister Sawfat Sherif and presidential adviser Osama Al Baz.

Egyptian officials quoted by Reuters said Gen. Sharif Zaid and Egyptian Defence Minister Field

Marshal Abdul Halim Abu Ghazaleh discussed Iran's reported deployment of missiles along the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

The King was seen off upon his departure and received upon his return by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and senior officials. The Crown Prince served as Regent during the King's absence.

Upon his departure from Cairo after the visit, the King sent a cable to President Mubarak thanking him for the warm hospitality and cordial reception extended during the visit.

Abu Abbas: Libya reconciling PLO factions

BAGHDAD (R) — Palestinian Commando leader Abu Abbas said Libya was playing an important role in reconciling Palestinian factions and predicted PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat would visit Tripoli soon.

"There is a positive and tangible development from Libya towards the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation)," Abu Abbas said in a telephone interview from an undisclosed location Saturday night.

"The development is still at its beginning and we are optimistic of a result that will serve the issues of our national and patriotic struggle," he added.

Abu Abbas went underground in the Middle East after the October 1985 hijacking of the Italian cruise liner Achille Lauro in the Mediterranean.

He is wanted in Italy and the United States for allegedly plotting the hijack. An Italian court sentenced him in absentia to jail

for his role in the incident.

Abu Abbas said in the interview he thought Mr. Arafat might go to Tripoli after a meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC) which he expected would be held in Algiers by the end of next month.

Relations between Mr. Arafat and Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi have been strained since the PLO leader quit Lebanon after the 1982 Israeli invasion. Col. Qaddafi told Mr. Arafat he should stay and fight to end.

Abu Abbas, leader of the leftist Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), is a member of the PLO Executive Committee.

"Libya is currently playing an important role to make the Palestinian situation ripe for convening the national council," he said.

He said a plenary meeting of Damascus-based Palestinian factions was held in Libya on Friday. Abu Abbas said the PLF would

work for the latest proposal for an international peace conference under U.N. auspices, attended by the PLO on equal footing, as "the only means through which we can discuss the Middle East question."

He added there could be no compromise on the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

"The details of representation and who will represent the PLO are secondary issues... the important thing is that the PLO is the party which has the right to choose."

Mr. Arafat told Reuters in an interview last week that the PLO must participate in any Middle East peace conference but implied PLO officials need not attend.

The United States and Israel refuse to talk to the PLO, while Israeli leaders are split over an international conference on the Middle East.

Chad claims victory in battle near air base

N'DJAMENA (R) — Chad says its troops have inflicted a severe defeat on Libyan forces near their main air base in the deserts of northern Chad.

Analysts in the Chadian capital say the fighting may have cut Libyan supply lines to the air base at Ouadi Doun and could open the way for a government offensive on the key oasis of Faya-Largeau.

A military statement said Chad killed 786 Libyans and took 121 prisoners during intense fighting over the last three days at the outpost of Bir-Kouira, 45 kilometres south of Ouadi Doun.

The official radio said that on two consecutive days President Hissene Habre's desert fighters routed two Libyan columns sent to reinforce defences at the Ouadi Doun Airfield.

Libya, which persistently denies having forces permanently stationed in neighbouring Chad, has made no comment on the N'Djamena reports.

(But a spokesman for the Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT), speaking from Tripoli, described the reports as ridiculous and said 713 government troops had defected to the

rebel side during a battle Saturday while the rest were either killed or put to flight).

Analysts said that if confirmed, a government success at Bir-Kouira would give Chad control of the Libyans' road to Ouadi Doun, said by Western intelligence sources to be protected by over 5,000 men.

The radio likened the reported government victory at Bir-Kouira to Chadian capture on Jan. 2 of Fada, 200 kilometres south east of Ouadi Doun, where Mr. Habre's highly mobile guerrilla-style fighters overran an estimated 1,000 Libyans.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 773111-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:55	Programme Review
16:10	Cartoons
16:10	Tom Sawyer
16:10	Different Stories
17:30	World of Strange Powers
18:00	Arabic Series
18:50	Local Panel
19:50	Local Programme on the Armed Forces
PROGRAMME TWO	
19:50	Local Programme on the Armed Forces
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Message from Oman
20:40	Arabic Series
21:40	Local comedy
22:00	Tomorrow's Programmes
22:05	Arabic series
23:00	News Summary in Arabic
23:10	Varities
RADIO JORDAN	
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & party on 95.0 KHz. SW Tel: 774111-19	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	Newsdesk
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
09:00	News Summary
10:00	Just a Minute
11:00	Follow the Wing
12:00	News Summary
12:45	Spectrum
13:00	News Summary
13:45	Pop Session Contd.
14:00	News Bulletin
14:10	Comedy
15:00	Concert Hour
16:00	News Summary
16:05	Instrumentals
16:30	Old Favourites
17:00	My Word
17:30	Pop Session
18:00	News Summary
18:05	Sports Roundup
18:30	Musical
19:00	News Desk
19:30	Date with a Star
20:00	Evening Show

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	
EXHIBITIONS	
* An exhibition of paintings by Adam Yahya at the Art Gallery, Jabal Amman, 1st Circle (until March 23).	
* An exhibition of photographs by French artist André Kertész at 'L'Oreille' at the French Cultural Centre (until March 27).	
* The Italian Embassy presents an exhibition entitled "Planning on the Past: The Rome Project" at the Royal Cultural Centre (until March 29).	
* Exhibition of British Academic Periodicals at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation in Shmeisani (until March 25).	
FEATURE FILM	
* "Private Benjamin" at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.	
PLAY	
* "Arabic plays for children daily at 10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre (until March 31).	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6610267	
American Centre - 644377	
French Cultural Centre - 630478	
Goethe Institute - 641993	
Soviet Cultural Centre - 642043	
Turkish Cultural Centre - 639777	
Hays Arts Centre - 665195	
Hussein Youth City - 6671816	
Y.W.C.A. - 641793	
Y.W.M.C.A. - 664251	
Amman Municipal Library - 637111	
Univ. of Jordan Library - 843555	
MUSEUMS	
* Children's Heritage and Science	

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (06) 532005, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)	
09:00	Agaba (RJ)
09:30	Cairo (RJ)
09:30	Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
09:30	Damascus (RJ)
10:05	Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ)
10:30	Jeddah (RJ)
10:30	Larnaca (RJ)
10:30	Cairo (RJ)
10:45	Cesabianca, Tunis (RJ)
10:45	Bangkok (RJ)
01:00	Baghdad (RJ)
OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)	
02:00	London, Baghdad (BA)
07:55	Cairo (MS)
09:20	Sana'a (LI)
13:05	Kuwait (KU)
15:20	Tripoli, Damascus (PK)
15:30	Bahrain, Larnaca (GP)
20:50	Baghdad (IA)
06:15	Karachi (PK)
DEPARTURES	
ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)	
06:45	Agaba (RJ)
11:30	Paris (RJ)
11:45	Vicenza, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
12:15	Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
13:50	Larnaca (RJ)
13:30	Cairo (RJ)
19:30	Kuwait, Dhahran (RJ)
20:30	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:45	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
21:00	Baghdad (RJ)
21:40	Jeddah (RJ)
21:15	Cairo (RJ)
OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)	
03:00	London (BA)
06:40	Damascus, Athens (OA)
08:20	Cairo (MS)
10:10	Frankfurt (LH)
15:00	Kuwait (KU)
16:10	Bahrain (GP)
16:30	Karachi (PK)
21:30	Baghdad (IA)
01:15	Damascus, Tripoli (PK)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate	891228
Amman Civil Defence	198, 199
Civil Defence Helpline	271293, 273151
Civil Defence Overseas	707023
Civil Defence Deir Alla	57306
Ambulance	193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade	198
First aid	630341
Blood Bank	77833
Civil Defence rescue	661111
Police headquarters	622090-3
Police rescue	192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters	639141
Traffic police	896300
Electric Power Co.	636381/4, 624881
Municipal water complaints	7711258
Queen Alia Intl. Airport	(08)533040

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre	81381/322
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn.	644281/6
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn.	642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Madhus, J. Amman	636140
Palestine, Shmeisani	664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845845
Al-Musabir Hospital	667271/9
The Islamic, Abadi	664127/7
Al-Abul, Abadi	664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajir	771010/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh	775111/25
Army, Marfa	891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital	6224050
Amal Hospital	674153

GENERAL

Jordan Television	773111/19
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Khalid Jordan	774111/19
Ministry of Tourism	642311
Hotel complaints	666412
Price complaints	661176
Telephone Information	12
Jordan and Middle East calls	10
Overseas calls	11
Repair service	17

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:	
Dr. Anwar Musa Al Haj	771020
Dr. Awneh Hawasdeh	777665
Salam Pharmacy	636730
Nedoukh Pharmacy	737672
Sahab pharmacy	668026
Khalid pharmacy	778653
First pharmacy	669112
Himawi pharmacy	645753
TAXIS:	
Khalid taxi	623775
Jerusalem taxi	83965
Hebron taxi	776100
Basman taxi	893433
Mid taxi	896434
Al-Salah taxi	774995
Siyaha taxi	648310
Korri taxi	647572
IRBID:	
Dr. Mohammad Al-Zubi	240184
Weidash pharmacy	(-)
Al-Shara's pharmacy	(-)
ZARQA:	
Dr. Hassan Sharbat	(-)
Eshbilia pharmacy	(-)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fls per kg.	
Apple (All kinds)	310 / 270
Banana	320 / 270
Banana (Mukhammar)	270 / 220
Beans	480 / 420
Broad beans	120 / 80
Broccoli	100 / 70
Cabbage	70 / 50
Carrot (yellow)	90 / 60
Cauliflower (yellow)	180 / 120
Cauliflower (white)	180 / 120
Chestnut	200 / 140
Cumcumber	180 / 140
Eggplant (small)	180 / 140

Garlic	600 / 500
Grapes (red)	130 / 100
Lemon	130 / 100
Marrow	110 / 70
Onion (dry)	110 / 100
Orange (Abu Surra)	230 / 280
Orange (Shammoushi)	230 / 200
Orange (yellow)	300 / 250
Pepper (sweet)	440 / 380
Pepper (sour)	280 / 220
Potato	120 / 100
Raddish	90 / 60
Spinach	70 / 30

Haj Hassan outlines aims behind focus on vocational training

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan said Sunday that vocational training centres around the country gave training to 17,000 young people during the past 1981-1985 five-year national development plan and that the new plan envisages training 30,000 trainees.

The minister was speaking at a ceremony for graduating 160 female graduates from the Marka Vocational Training Centre which is operated by the Ministry of Labour's Vocational Training Corporation (VTC).

He said that the Ministry of Labour is concentrating its attention on vocational training for males and females because he said that such training is a basic requirement for the Kingdom's economic and social development. For this reason, the Ministry of Labour has assigned centres for training women and has turned out skilled technicians who can support their families and contribute to the development of their community.

The VTC offers training to working women who wish to update their skills and improve their efficiency and also to women who want to learn a trade and make a living, the minister said. Through vocational training, the Ministry of Labour is helping the country to overcome the problem of unemployment because skillful Jordanians can take up different jobs which are presently being taken up by non-Jordanians, Mr. Haj Hassan added.

In his speech the minister paid tribute to the VTC for offering training to young Jordanians and to the Ministry of Education which is coordinating its efforts in this concern with the Ministry of Labour and directing students towards trades and vocational training.

At the outset of the ceremony, the director of vocational training centres for women in Ruseifa, Manara and Jubilee made a speech outlining the programmes carried out at the training centres and the role of qualified and skilled women in society.

The 160 graduates took courses in weaving, typing, dress making, and arabisia flower arranging. At the end of the ceremony, they received their diplomas from the minister in the presence of VTC Director Munther Al Masri, Mrs. In'am Al Mufti, director of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation and senior officials from the Ministry of Labour.

On Saturday, Mr. Haj Hassan chaired a meeting of the board of directors of the VTC to review projects included in the 1986-1990 five-year plan and a report on the corporation's achievements in 1986.

The 1986-90 plan provides for new organisational measures for existing projects and new expansions and improvement of facilities for training at VTC's various training centres. The new plan also provides for setting up a training institute for drivers in Zarqa and Hashimieh at the cost of JD 475,000. The centre will give training mainly to drivers of heavy lorries and machinery.

The VTC will open a new vocational training centre at Ghor Al Safi at the cost of JD 550,000 in order to train local people in different trades. Another centre will be established in Amman at the cost of JD 500,000 and one at the industrial city which will be created in the northern districts of the country at the cost of JD 600,000.

A report on the corporation's activities in 1986 said the VTC's general budget amounted to JD 2,977,792 which was largely spent on running training centres around the country.

The report also gave some details about the Yajouz training centre near Amman. It said that the centre provided training to 975 students last year, whilst the centre at Hakama near Irbid trained 684 students, a centre at Hashimieh near Zarqa 750 students, Sahab 733 students, and the Ain Al Basha centre trained 1,066 students.

Course for vocational instructors

Also Saturday, the VTC opened a six-day training course for 25 instructors employed in the ministry's various vocational centres in the Kingdom.

VTC Director Munther Al Masri said in an opening speech that the participants will be oriented on means of directing, guiding and advising trainees, which he said was a vital element in developing the mental and physical abilities of the trainees in various trades.

Guidance is essential to help trainees coordinate their work with the needs of the community and to develop their capabilities, Dr. Masri continued.

NRA starts drilling deep exploratory geothermal well

AMMAN (Petra) — The Natural Resources Authority (NRA) has started drilling a deep new exploratory well in search for geothermal energy in the Zarqa Ma'in area, south of Madaba, according to a NRA spokesman. He said that the well would go as deep as 1,500 metres and that it will be part of a series of drillings started by the NRA in 1976.

The drilling is needed to find sufficient geothermal power which could be exploited for setting up a power station in the region, he said.

He said that the NRA had already carried out the first stage of the exploration work in the same region and in other areas

stretching towards the Dead Sea and Wadi Araba further south. The spokesman also indicated that results of the initial work had been encouraging and would prompt intensive drilling in the Zarqa Ma'in area.

The hot mineral springs in the Zarqa Ma'in area have been used for therapeutic purposes and a project is underway for using the waters as a health spa.

If the current exploration work proves successful, he said, the third stage — which entails drilling more wells — will begin. The spokesman noted that any alternative forms of energy are needed by Jordan to help produce electric power.

Soviet parliamentarians due to arrive Tuesday

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Soviet parliamentary delegation is due here Tuesday on a week-long visit to Jordan at the invitation of Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayez. During the visit the delegation will be received by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, senior government officials and will hold talks with speakers and members of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament.

The talks are expected to cover international issues of common interest to the Soviet Union and Jordan, including the Middle

East question as well as Soviet-Jordanian relations. The delegation will also tour a number of archaeological sites and development projects in the Kingdom.

Another Soviet delegation has been visiting Jordan for the past week and has held meetings with senior officials and speakers of Parliament. During a meeting with Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin, the Soviet delegation was briefed on Israel's arbitrary measures in the occupied Arab territories.

Talhouni receives Soviet team

AMMAN (Petra) — Mr. Bahjat Talhouni, president of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society, Sunday received a delegation representing the African Academy for Strategic Studies in the Soviet Union.

During the meeting Mr. Talhouni reviewed relations between the two countries and said that Jordan and the Arab World appreciated the Soviet position in support of Arab causes, particularly the Palestine question.

He said that Jordan believed in a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East to achieve the restoration of occupied Arab territories and to safeguard legitimate Palestinian rights through the convening of an international Middle East peace conference to be attended by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and all parties to the conflict.

Talhouni said this was a practical formula to achieve peace through

the implementation of Resolutions 242 and 338.

He briefed the Soviet delegation on Israel's aggressive policies and its attempts to block all peace efforts to solve the Palestine problem. He stressed that unlimited American support for Israel had encouraged the Jewish state to continue its expansionist policies, thus threatening regional and international peace.

Mr. Talhouni also called for an end to the nuclear arms race to avoid possible disasters.

Mr. Vassily Vassilyeva, deputy director of the academy, praised Jordanian-Soviet relations and Jordan's achievements on all levels.

Also Sunday, the Soviet delegation was received by University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali, who briefed them on the development of the educational sector in Jordan over the past three decades.

AOAS opens 41st session

AOABA (Petra) — The 41st session for the executive council of the Arab Organisation of Administrative Sciences (AOAS) began here Saturday. The council's chairman Khaled Al Radaydeh, who is the undersecretary of the Civil Service Commission, welcomed the council members and stressed that the AOAS had exerted all efforts to

contribute towards supporting institutions concerned with administrative development in Arab countries.

Mr. Radaydeh stressed the necessity of updating the organisation's programmes and techniques within its future plans to support administrative development projects and plans in the Arab World.

A new approach to animal production, management

By Monika Warich
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A new veterinary epidemiology and ectoparasite project of the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) in Jordan aims to improve animal production and health management, project manager Dr. Frank Schenkel told the Jordan Times.

Since the number of sheep, goats and cattle which are infected with certain diseases and the specific ways these illnesses affect animal production in Jordan are not yet exactly known, a main task of the project will be to establish hard and fast facts in these respects as well as to record them. This will be done for all diseases affecting sheep and goats, although not all of them represent an equally serious threat to the animals' general health or are detrimental to animal production. It will be recorded where and when they appear, the number of animals affected and in which way — for instance the death rate, reduction of fertility, milk production etc. The overall objective is to assess the economic significance of each disease and to devise suitable treatment and preventive measures.

Dr. Schenkel emphasised that the project is following an integrated approach to the task of improving sheep and goat production in Jordan, as health improvement has to be seen in close relationship with range and animal management and all other factors affecting livestock production.

The most important diseases affecting sheep and goat production in Jordan, he said, are pox and tick-borne diseases, which are particularly virulent in late spring and early summer. Isolated cases of anthrax, which invariably leads to the death of the infected animal, have been reported during the last year, but its occurrence is rare Dr. Schenkel added.

The project will work in close cooperation with veterinary clinics all over the country, as well as with local laboratories and animal production specialists. The farmers need to become actively involved in the project's activities rather than simply receive treatment for their animals in case of acute illness — with emphasis on preventive measures and improved management suitable to today's more intensive production methods, which increase the stress on the animals and make them more susceptible to all kinds of diseases, Dr. Schenkel said. Therefore, in addition to vaccinating and treating sick animals, the project will inform their owners about appropriate precautions against

project, the staff of these clinics during the coming three years will make regular field visits to examine and, if necessary, treat the flocks. A schedule has already been worked out according to which each clinic is supposed to examine five flocks per month, so that a total of 360 flocks will be screened every year. The results are to be processed by the project's newly established computer section. Field activities include taking blood samples for examination in local laboratories on parasites and other possible diseases, the recording of data such as age, productivity and general condition of the animals and finally these data are evaluated by a specialised computer programme.

The introduction of mobile dipping units for sheep is expected to contribute towards curbing the spread of tick-borne diseases (J.T. file photo)

diseases, improved feeding and management methods while at the same time seeking the farmers' cooperation in compiling data on all aspects of animal production.

Clinics

In Jordan there are six main government veterinary clinics, one each in the districts of Amman, Zarqa, Irbid, Karak, Ma'an, Tafilah and the Jordan Valley. In cooperation with the

NEWS IN BRIEF

Education staff in Jenin thank King

AMMAN (Petra) — The staff of the Ministry of Education in Jenin have expressed their appreciation for His Majesty King Hussein's support of the steadfastness of Palestinians under Israeli occupation. They praised the government decision to raise the salaries of Ministry of Education workers and expressed hope that God would protect the King, his people under occupation and the Arab nation.

JNRCS requests donations for refugees

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) will today organise a one-day donation campaign for inhabitants in Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon. JNRCS Chairman Ahmad Abu Qoura urged all citizens and institutions wishing to make financial or in-kind donations to go to the society's offices. The move is in response to an appeal by the general secretariat of the Arab Red Crescent societies.

Prince Ra'd opens camp for handicapped

AQABA (Petra) — Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, the chief chamberlain and president of the Jordan Sports Federation for the Handicapped (JSFH), opened in Aqaba Sunday the 1987 spring camp for the handicapped with the participation of 150 handicapped people from various parts of the country. Prince Ra'd delivered a speech in which he said that the handicapped are an integral part of society and called for supporting and extending help to handicapped people. He also presented gifts to a number of handicapped people on the occasion of the 40th birthday of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan which fell on Friday. The six-day camp includes various social, cultural and sports activities.

Rainfall above annual average

AMMAN (J.T.) — This has been Jordan's best winter season in terms of the quantities of rain which fell in the Kingdom. Meteorology Department Director Ali Abanda said Sunday. He said that rains since the beginning of this winter season exceeded the usual annual average.

RJ station managers end meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-day conference for the Royal Jordanian (RJ) 42 station managers abroad concluded Sunday at the Gateway Hotel. The conference discussed various topics related to coordination with RJ agents abroad and contracts and agreements signed with those agents.

Jordan, France discuss postal services

AMMAN (Petra) — Under Secretary of the Ministry of Communications Mansour Ibn Tarif Sunday conferred with a team from the French postal services department on cooperation between Jordan and France in fast mail delivery operations. They also discussed improving the exchange of expertise and information. Mr. Ibn Tarif outlined Jordan's fast mail delivery system.

Trade team back from E. Germany

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Trade, led by Mr. Hamdi Al Tabbaa, has returned to Amman at the end of a visit to East Germany where they attended the Leipzig international fair. During the visit the delegation held talks with East German officials on means of promoting trade exchange with Jordan.

Isra'a ceremony to be held Thursday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Awaqaf and Islamic Affairs announced Sunday that it will organise a ceremony at a mosque in Independence Street, Amman, on Thursday afternoon under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein on the occasion of Al Isra'a Wal Mir'aj (the anniversary marking the Prophet Mohammad's nocturnal journey and ascension to heaven). The announcement said that Minister of Awaqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat and senior government officials will address worshippers at the mosque to explain the religious meaning of Isra'a.

Local onions take the market from imports

AMMAN (Petra) — The Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO) will stop selling imported dry onions in Jordanian markets as of the end of this month because local production has started, AMPCO Director General Ghazi Abu Hassan announced here on Sunday.

He said that AMPCO stopped importing potatoes as of Jan. 15 and garlic as of the beginning of last month with the purpose of encouraging local farmers to grow these commodities and to help maintain profitable prices for local producers.

Referring to AMPCO's marketing of crops abroad, Mr. Abu Hassan said that the company is dispatching crops and vegetables to European Community markets via Royal Jordanian planes at the rate of 16 shipments a week, and that each shipment weighs between two to 15 tonnes.

Jordanian products are quite popular due to their good quality and they are competing with similar commodities from major countries, Mr. Abu Hassan pointed out.

For this reason, he said that AMPCO has concluded new contracts with European markets to sell them Jordanian agricultural crops that will be produced in the coming winter season, he continued. This step will enable AMPCO to draw up contracts with local farmers to produce certain crops which are in demand in Europe, Mr. Abu Hassan pointed out. He said that AMPCO has recently exported three plane loads of vegetables to Bahrain and Dubai and continues to seek markets in other Arab countries.

According to Mr. Abu Hassan, AMPCO shoulders additional expenses for the sake of maintaining its credibility in markets abroad. For this reason, he said the AMPCO board of directors plans to discuss with the government the subject of subsidising agricultural exports.

ADC nets JD 450,000 in profits for 1986

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman Development Corporation (ADC) last year registered net profits of JD 450,000 and has decided to distribute JD 300,000 in dividends to shareholders, according to ADC Director Sami Al Rashid.

Mr. Rashid said that the profits were came from renting office space in the Shabab area at the Prince Mohammad Street complex and from car parks in the downtown area.

The profits made from these businesses, he said, have helped the ADC to pay back the premiums and the interests on loans extended to the corporation for building the complexes, Mr. Rashid added.

Mr. Rashid said that this is the fourth consecutive year that these complexes and car parks have made profits, despite the prevailing economic recession.

Mr. Rashid announced that the public garden, now being set up within the King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein Complex at Wadi Saqra, will be completed and open to the public by May and that entry to the park will be free of charge. The King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein Complex is being built on a 53 dunum plot of land and, in addition to the park, it will include a theatre, shopping centre and other facilities.

According to Mr. Rashid, the first stage of the whole project will be completed before the end of 1987.

Mr. Rashid also announced that the ADC commercial complex at Marka will be completed in three months from now. The ADC's capital now stands at JD 10.5 million shared equally by the Greater Amman Municipality, the Pension Fund and the Housing Bank.

University to host Arab construction conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The second Arab construction engineering conference will open at the University of Jordan on April 9 under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Dr. Samih Qaqish, head of the civil engineering section at the Faculty of Engineering, said that the conference aims at helping Arab participants to exchange expertise and information and to launch serious cooperation between their universities and institutions in promoting construction work and also to highlight scientific research in engineering and technology.

Dr. Qaqish, who is also secretary general of the conference, said it is hoped that the conference will encourage private and public construction companies to offer support and backing for scientific research, and that engineers will be oriented on the most up to date scientific and technological advances.

Awqaf delegation to participate in conference for preachers

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian delegation representing the Ministry of Awaqaf and Islamic Affairs left for Morocco on Sunday to take part in an international conference for preachers in the Islamic world, due to open in the city of Fez on Monday.

During the four-day conference, the participants will discuss basics in Islamic sermons given in mosques and means of promoting these sermons to propagate

Islam. Jordan's delegation, which is led by Dr. Ahmad Hleiel, will call on the participants to give more attention to the Jerusalem issue and the holy places in the occupied territories during their sermons.

Dr. Hleiel said that Islamic preachers ought to expose Zionist plans for Judaising Arab territory to the world and ought to help unify Islamic ranks for rescuing the usurped holy shrines.

SOS children celebrate Mother's Day with their new found families

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Orphans and their "mothers" celebrated Mother's Day yesterday, an opportunity which would not have been possible for either a year ago. When the Amman SOS village opened its doors in May 1986, nine orphans were admitted. Since then the number of children has increased to 37, said Mr. Nabil Abu Diab, the SOS village director, at a press conference on Sunday.

"The children live in one of the villages' houses with a 'mother', 'brothers' and 'sisters' in an attempt to provide a family atmosphere, lost to orphans and often not found in orphanages," Mr. Abu Diab said.

The concept of a family oriented village is based on studies which have shown that children growing up in an environment of love and attention usually develop to be more secure adults, he said, adding "in many orphanages children grow physically, but not emotionally, which is what we want to avoid."

Since the "mother" must leave

her home and live in one of nine houses on the premises of the village, she must be single and it is preferred if she is between the ages of 30 and 40, Mr. Abu Diab said. At the moment there are seven "mothers" and each has an average of five "children."

Orphans must be between the age of one year and 11 years, and can live at the village until the age of 18, he continued. They are referred to the village through the Ministry of Social Development which refers children without parents, or whose mother has a mental or physical handicap or who have been discarded by both parents as orphans.

The children attend schools in the municipality of Tareq where the village is located. "The village can presently accommodate 81 children, but it is possible to expand further if necessary," said Mr. Abu Diab.

Financial support needed

He told reporters that the main problem the village faces is financial. "We depend on donations and although we are registered

with the General Union of Voluntary Societies, the funds we receive are not enough to cover the expenses." He added that anyone who wishes to sponsor a child can do so through a JD 60 a month sponsorship programme.

The Amman SOS village, which was established under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, is the 14th in the Arab World and numbers 250 worldwide. All villages fall under the umbrella of the SOS Kinderdorf International Organisation.

The idea for such a village was originated by an Austrian in 1949. An orphan at the age of five, Herman Muller was raised by his 15-year-old sister instead of being placed in an orphanage. The idea for a family oriented orphanage stayed with him, even after he graduated and started work as a physician. After World War II he set up the first SOS village in Austria.

Concluding the press conference at the Plaza Hotel, Mr. Abu Diab said that the hotel organised a party for the children and their "mothers" followed by trips to the Housing Bank and an amusement park.

Republic of China to display wide range of products at Amman exhibition

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A wide range of products from the Republic of China (Taiwan) goes on display in Amman from April 3 to April 12 as part of Taiwan's efforts to increase trade ties with the Arab World.

The products on display will include handicrafts to high-technology products as computers and whole plant equipment and machinery, electronic and electric appliances and autotrans, according to Mr. Y.T. Hu, manager of the Taipei world trade centre, who is here to organise the event.

The purpose of the exhibition, said Mr. Hu, is to "display the development of our economy and the diversified technological advances our country has made" in the past years and thereby increase trade relations between Jordan and the Republic of China.

It will be the second time products from the Republic of China go on display in Amman. The first exhibition was held in 1981.

Fifty-five Taiwanese manufacturers will take part in the exhibition which is billed as "a solo exhibition only for Jordan."

The absence of diplomatic relations between the Republic of China and many Arab states is not in any way detrimental to trade relations, according to Mr. Hu. "We offer some of the best products with the latest technical knowhow at cheaper prices than other sources such as Hong Kong, Japan and Singapore," he said.

Balance of trade

The balance of trade with Jordan is heavily in favour of Taiwan, which imported \$15 million worth of Jordanian products, mainly phosphates and potash in 1986 while exporting to the Kingdom products worth \$62 million. Mr. Hu said his country was interested in increasing its imports from Jordan and expressed hope that bilateral trade would continue to grow steadily.

Furthermore, he said, the government of the Republic of China is also interested in setting up joint manufacturing projects in Jordan. Noting that Taiwan has a high reserve of foreign currency, Mr. Hu said he would welcome approaches from Jordanian businessmen as well as the public sector to set up light industries.

Answering a question, Mr. Hu said the government of his coun-

try was particularly careful about ensuring the high quality of products that are exported. In addition, he said, the government is also meticulous in attending to disputes, whenever they arise, between Taiwanese exporters and foreign buyers.

According to the trade official, computers now rank as one of the high-volume exports from Taiwan. "Our exports of high-technology computers at highly competitive prices to the United States are increasing rapidly and the volume of such trade has risen to rank as the first or second in our external trade," Mr. Hu said.

The products to be displayed in Amman will not be available for sale, Mr. Hu said. "We are hoping to initiate business contacts through the exhibition and follow up on them later on," he said.

The exhibition begins on April 3 and will remain open for visitors between 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. every day until April 12.

The Taipei World Trade Centre maintains a permanent exhibition of Taiwanese products at its sprawling complex in the Taiwanese capital throughout the year. In addition, it hosts an average of 12 international and local exhibitions of products in specific fields.

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Take Olympics home

THE THREAT of a boycott once again hangs over the Olympic Games. For months now, North Korea has been threatening to lead an East bloc boycott if it is not made a co-host with South Korea. So far, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and South Korea have agreed on a plan to share a number of events with the North, but without making it a co-host. North Korea has, however, expressed its dissatisfaction with the scheme.

To press the issue, North Korea has skipped out of its first round Olympic soccer qualifier, claiming the exemption usually granted to the host of the games. This has brought the international soccer body, FIFA, into the fray. FIFA, which has jurisdiction over the qualifying rounds for the Olympics, is meeting now to decide whether to uphold the disqualification of the North Korean team, or to grant the team an exception, thereby implicitly sanctioning North Korea's claim as co-host.

All this political controversy, unfortunately, is all too common for the Olympics Games. Throughout its history the Olympics has been caught up in politics, despite the founding ideals of the games. Two world wars preempted the games, and Hitler used the 1936 Olympics, held in Berlin, to promote his Aryan superiority doctrine. Jesse Owens, the black American star of those games, refuted that doctrine.

More recently, the last two Olympics have suffered major boycotts. The 1980 games, held in Moscow, were boycotted by the West to protest the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. In 1984, the Soviet Union led an East bloc boycott of the Los Angeles Olympics. Again, next year, the Seoul Olympics could produce the third consecutive boycott. And still more, the 1992 Olympics, to be held in Barcelona, is threatened with political violence from Basque separatists.

Such political controversies undermine ideals that the Olympics is supposed to embody — the peaceful struggle of the world's best athletes. One solution to reduce the risks of political disruptions is to hold the Olympics in the same place every four years. This would lessen the incentive and the opportunity for the games to be used as a political football. The logical place would seem to be the origin of the ancient Olympics, the home of Mount Olympus, Greece. The city of Athens is now preparing to bid for the centennial of the Modern Games in 1996. If Athens constructs the facilities necessary, and succeeds in hosting the 1996 games, perhaps it would be advisable to keep the Olympics in the country of its origin for the 21st century. Go home, Olympics.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Remembering Karamah Day

JORDAN'S observance of Al Karamah Day Saturday was in effect paying tribute to the martyrs who fell in battle during the Israeli aggression of 1968. The celebrations held at the Martyr's Monument manifest Jordan's determination; to keep on the struggle against the usurpers of Arab land and to fend off any attack on Arab soil. The anniversary brings to mind the heroic stand of the Jordanian Armed Forces against superior force which suffered defeat; and also the sacrifice which the soldiers made in defence of their homeland. Saturday's anniversary was also a manifestation of the great allegiance and affection to the King who leads this country and provides its armed forces with the most efficient means for defending the Arab land. The anniversary is a reminder to us to take lesson of what happened in 1968 and to keep our eyes open to all the present developments in our region. These developments clearly indicate that the Israelis continue to resist the cause of peace which is based on justice, and continue to consolidate their hold on our land, hoping to perpetuate occupation. Saturday's celebration of Karamah Day was a renewed determination on the part of Jordan to seek unity of Arab ranks and a strong intrinsic Arab force capable of repelling aggression and regaining usurped rights and territory.

Al Dustour: Hopeful signs

THERE is renewed hope for an end to the Gulf war largely due to Arab mediation efforts and due to the fact that Iran has failed after seven years of conflict to achieve any success or occupy Arab territory. Algeria and Kuwait are both involved in efforts to bring the war to an end, and they are coordinating their work with the Organisation of Islamic Conference. Let us hope that these efforts will achieve success, especially as Iran has lately suffered huge losses in men and material in the battles east of the city of Basra. Perhaps there are some parties within the regime in Tehran which realise that the on-going war is bound to cause splits within Iran itself in addition to the losses in the battlefield, and for this reason Tehran might respond favourably to the Arab mediation efforts. We are hopeful that the current mediation bids will bear fruit and Iran will realise that it can achieve nothing through war and more bloodshed. Perhaps Arab countries which are offering peace bids will submit to Tehran a formula that could help save Iran's face and at the same time bring peace to the Gulf region.

Sawt Al Shaab: Time to break the silence

AFTER nearly seven years of conflict, Iran has failed to achieve any success in the Gulf war. It has failed to occupy Arab land or attain a military victory largely due to the heroic stand of the Iraqi armed forces which have inflicted heavy losses on the Iranian aggressors. The Iranians had claimed that they would achieve a decisive victory in the war by March 21 which marks the end of the Persian year, but the deadline passed and the Iranians failed to achieve that victory. The Iraqi armed forces continue to inflict defeat on the Iranian invaders and continue to teach the Tehran regime more and more lessons. Every hope in Tehran has been affected by the war and every family has lost one or two of its members in the battlefield; and as Iran is mourning its dead, there is no victory for the Tehran regime in sight. As the new Persian year starts there can be no hope for any success for the Iranian leaders who have been misleading their people and continuing their acts of aggression on the Arab Nation. Many Iranians ask why should this war continue and why should their economy be transformed into shambles? The bereaved families of Iran continue to wonder why their children must be killed in a losing war and why bloodshed must not stop. Let us hope that the silent majority in Iran will speak out and put an end to the war. Let the on-going Saudi Arabian mediation efforts be crowned with success.

Lesson from Irangate: Delegated power might get abused

By Dr. Waleed Sa'di

IN a nutshell the Tower Commission investigating the Irangate scandal ruled that President Ronald Reagan was negligent in carrying out his executive duties in this affair by delegating too much of his prerogatives and his executive powers to subordinates and by not staying on the top of things with regard to the prosecution of U.S. policies in the Gulf within the declared guidelines and established practices. It further declared, in so many words, that the president failed to supervise national security policies, knew little of what was going on and paid little attention to legal constraints. The incisive report of the commission went as far as to suggest that Mr. Reagan was guilty of dereliction of duty and had manifested lack of leadership. The commission further established that the presidential awareness was concocted behind his back was no lawful excuse and if anything was a negative reflection on the president's conduct and execution of his presidential duties and powers.

Seen from this vantage point of view, the storm continued to brew in Washington and all over the U.S. as I arrived in North America on the second leg of my itinerary to the West and on the eve of the president's March 4 address to the nation on the Iran debate. The March 4 presidential accounting of the events leading to the Iran affair answered some questions but left many still unanswered. In his charismatic personal management style, the president admitted that mistakes were committed but never got close to admitting that he had personally made some of those errors of judgement. He disclosed that the whole arms deal with Iran was, in the final analysis, nothing but a barter deal in which arms were exchanged for hostages and that geopolitical consideration did not figure at all at the end in the deal with Iran. President Reagan promised to stay on the top of things for the remaining two years of his presidency and to avoid being so trusting of even his closest aides and supporters. He hinted that he will refrain from delegating any of his presidential powers to any of his subordinates after a string of failures with his chiefs of staff at the White House. He implied that too much trust in the closest aides corrupts them and often leads to abuse and exploitation. Henceforth, his subordinates will be called upon to abide by the letter and spirit of his guidelines and to reflect faithfully on his views and policies. President Reagan's standing improved a lot after his address to the nation although many Americans still believed that the president was holding out on many issues related to the Iran affair.

I happen to belong to those who still persist in believing that the arms deal with Iran was at all times only partial arms for hostages deal and that geopolitical considerations were and still are in the works behind Washington's deal with Tehran via Israel. No one in his right mind could be believed that such amounts of hi-tech weapons, which were shipped to Iran, were only to liberate U.S. hostages and not part of a general Western attempt to cultivate relations with Iran.

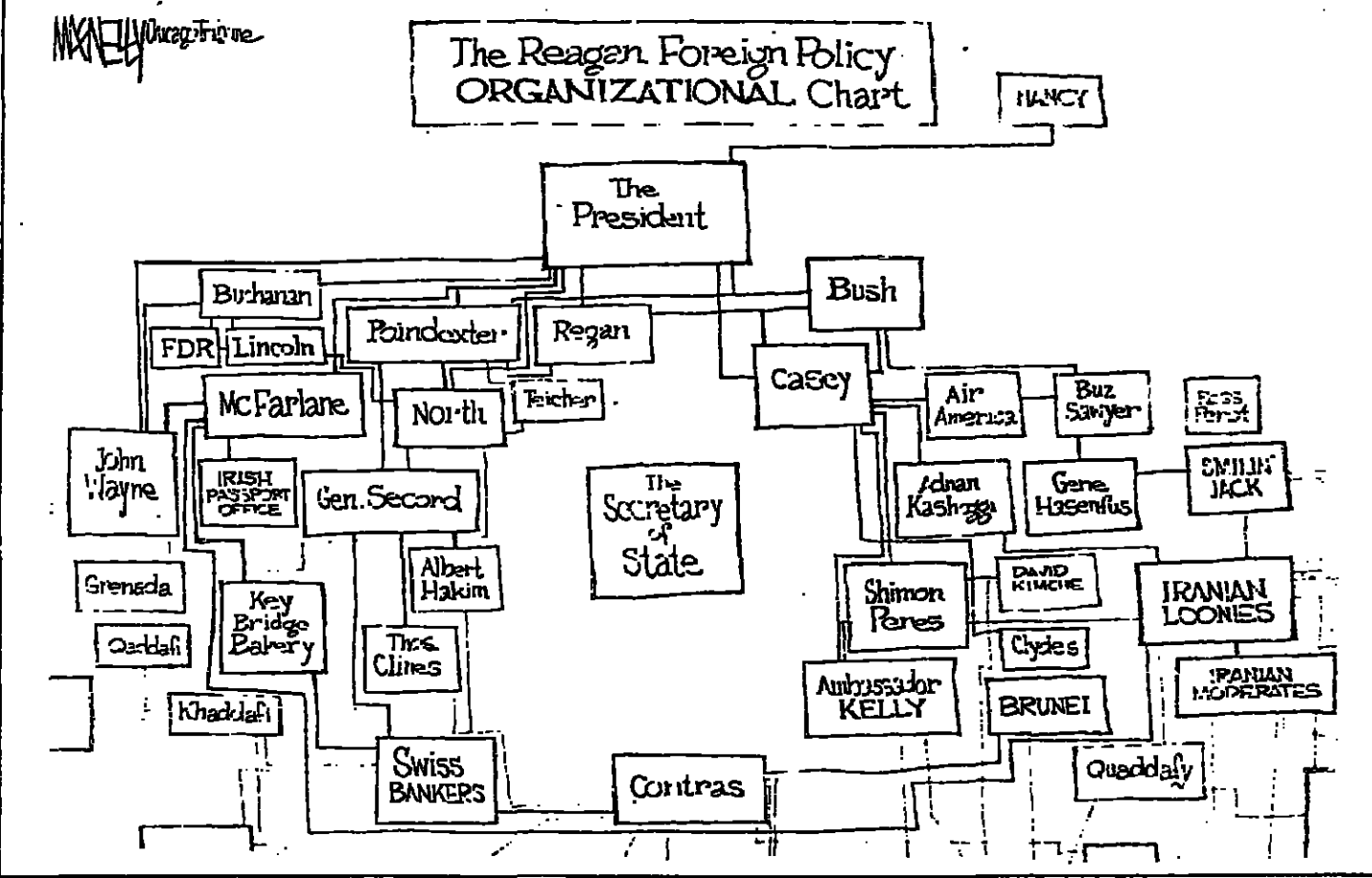
Be that as it may, President Reagan moved fast to put flesh on the bones of his limited confession to his nation by a series of appointments and forced resignations. What stands out among the innovations introduced by the president is the declared intention of beefing up the legal staff at the White House to serve as watchdogs over the general execution and implementation of presidential powers and with access to the president to report on any reservations that they may have on the conduct of domestic as well as foreign

affairs. President Reagan's choice of ex-senator Howard Baker as his newest chief of staff had been seen as further evidence that President Reagan, having been many times bitten and many more times shy, wanted a chief of staff who would reflect faithfully the inner thought of the president without abuse, exploitation or manipulation.

With the benefit of hindsight the whole past White House scenarios, with regard to changes of chiefs of staff, including the one involving Donald Regan, prove beyond a shadow of doubt that the senior lady of the president may not expect to cross swords with the First Lady with impunity and immunity no matter how close or indispensable they might think they are to the president. Many heads had rolled in the past over such confrontations with the wife of the chief executive and they will surely continue to roll in the future.

But the moral of the latest story of the White House which has

turned pinkish a bit and tarnished a lot over the issue of the arms deal with Tehran, could be just the simple proposition that no chief executive may safely delegate his executive powers or any of them to even the most trusted of his subordinates or aides or supporters for they seldom know their limits and often interpret the delegation of powers as a green light to prosecute their own selfish missions and objectives. This story of the White House suggests that any delegation of executive powers may be made only to the vice-president or equivalent thereof, who, given the complexities of president or equivalent thereof, may assume more and more today's conduct of state affairs, may assume more and more delegated powers of the chief executive. Also, the story reveals that even chief executives need legal advice and juridical counselling, both domestic as well as international, to assure that legal constraints are paid their due attention. And above all, the recent reshuffles at the White House makes it abundantly clear: Never cross swords with the First Lady!



Europe's economic club turns 30, still unsure of itself

By Robert Burns
The Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium — The European Economic Community marks its 30th birthday on Wednesday (March 25), bigger than ever but still hampered by conflicting visions of its future. The original EEC members, who signed the community's founding treaty of Rome in 1957, were France, West Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg.

Since then, Britain, Ireland, Denmark, Greece, Spain and Portugal have joined, giving the bloc a broader geographic and cultural scope but also multiplying its financial and organizational problems.

A series of 30th anniversary events is scheduled throughout the EEC this week. West German television is broadcasting a special series about the treaty of Rome negotiations. London is featuring an EEC exhibition. The leaders of the key EEC institutions are gathering in the Italian capital to commemorate the treaty signing.

After a generation of working together, the EEC member governments can point to some important accomplishments, including self-sufficiency in food production and the development of a common trade policy.

Yet the EEC has failed to prevent Europe from falling behind the world's other major economic powers — the United States and Japan — in the vital areas of innovation, entrepreneurship and high technology.

Some say this failure can be traced to the roots of the EEC. Thirty years after the 378-page treaty of Rome was signed, the European governments still differ over the meaning of the first line: "To lay the foundations of an ever closer union among the peoples of Europe."

Should the 12 nations try to become a political unit with a joint foreign and defence policy as well as a common approach to economic matters?

Or should they stop at the still-distant goal of making a truly common market by eliminating barriers to free trade among its members?

The failure so far to answer these questions helps explain the EEC's financial crisis, which some officials call the most serious in its history. Unpaid bills are piling up, and little progress has been made on proposed changes in the way the Common Market is financed.

Jacques Delors, president of the EEC's Executive Commission, is spearheading a campaign for bigger member country con-

tributions to the EEC budget. He said recently that a "morass of budgetary malpractices" had pushed the organisation to the brink of bankruptcy.

Delors has estimated that the group's 1987 budget of 36 billion European Currency Units (\$40 billion) — the largest in its history — is likely to run about 4 billion ECUs (\$4.5 billion) short.

The EEC's perennial money pinches run to the heart of its identity crisis.

One group of members, including Britain and Denmark, wants the EEC to be a successful trading bloc and little more. They push hardest for budget restraint, fearing money will be used increasingly for non-economic programmes that the national governments now control.

Another group, including Italy and smaller countries such as Belgium and Luxembourg, see the EEC as a tool of political integration. They want to build a federalist union of European states and advocate a more liberal approach to financing the common budget.

This clash of views has often paralysed the EEC and left its leaders unsure how they should plan for the future.

"There is no great design for Europe unless everybody is committed to it," Delors says.

There seems little doubt, however, that the European public strongly supports the EEC. A poll this month of opinion throughout the EEC said 75 per cent of EEC nationals considered their country's membership to be important.

A common complaint of ordinary Europeans is that the EEC spends too much of its energies on technical issues of little apparent relevance to their lives.

For the past two years, the top issue on the EEC's agenda has been speeding up the process of removing trade barriers within its borders.

Physical and technical barriers to the free passage of goods and services, such as insisting on different colouring in toothpastes in different member countries, are estimated to add 10 per cent to the price of EEC goods. They also prevent major companies from taking full advantage of a home European market of 321 million consumers.

The EEC has set a target date of 1992 to wipe out all remaining trade barriers, but it remains highly uncertain whether the deadline can be met.

In the meantime, the EEC is turning its attention to international affairs and the question of its own political future.

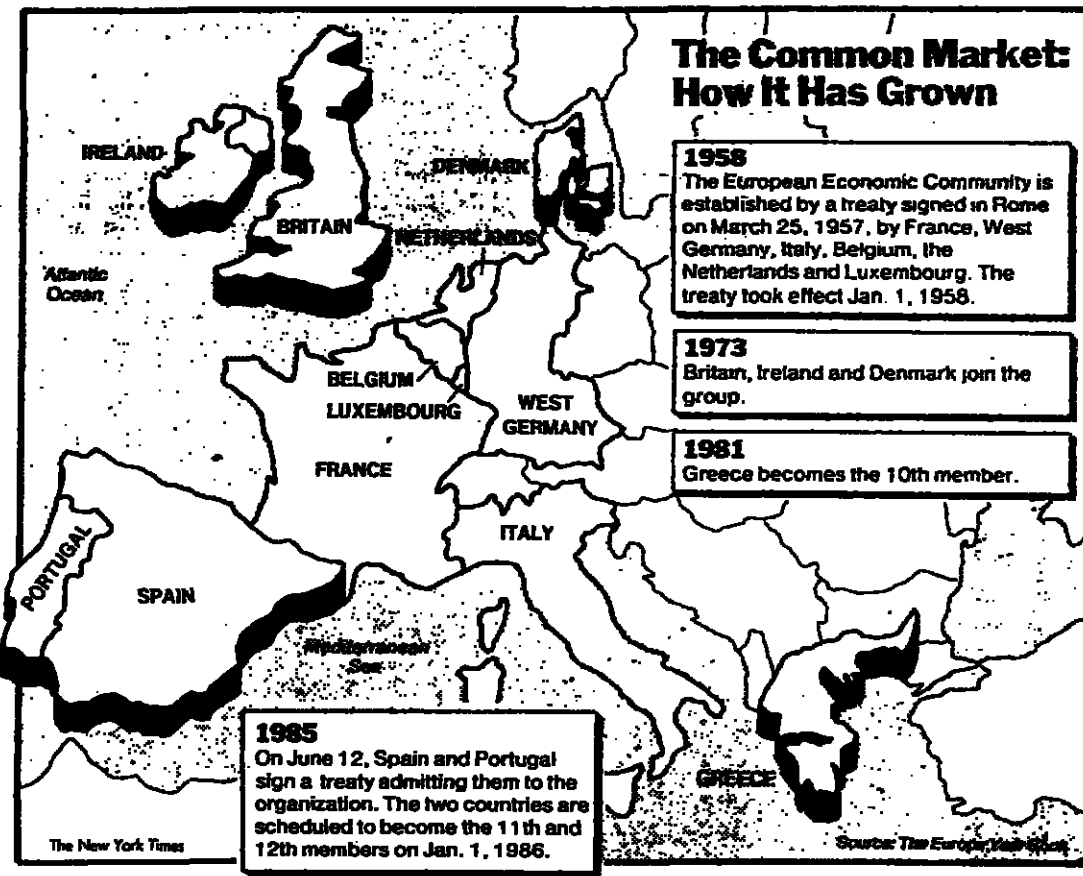
Among the most pressing political aims are:

— Improving relations with the

United States, the EEC's biggest trading partner. Transatlantic ties have been strained by disputes over agricultural trade and sharing the burden of the defence of Western Europe.

— Responding to Turkey's request for admission. This is tricky because Turkey's traditional enemy, Greece, an EEC member, has sought to block any moves to let Turkey join. The EEC recognises, however, that Turkey is a NATO member and an important link in Western Europe's security against the Soviet Union.

— Asserting a European role in the Middle East peace effort. After splitting with U.S. policy in 1980 by declaring that the Palestinians should be represented in Middle East peace negotiations, the EEC has been embarrassingly silent on an issue that is of vital strategic importance to its Mediterranean-area members.



Pakistan celebrates National Day

By Dr. Lal Baha Ali

The writer is a visiting professor at the Faculty of Arts at the University of Jordan. She contributed this article to the Jordan Times.

THE 23rd March is one of the most significant days in the life of the Pakistani nation. It was on this fateful day, in the year 1940, that about 100 million Muslims of the South-Asian sub-continent took the momentous decision of shaping their future destiny; it was on this historic day that, at Lahore, the All India Muslim League under the leadership of Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah adopted the historic resolution, which later came to be known as Pakistan Resolution, for the division of the Indian sub-continent and demanded a separate Muslim state in the sub-continent's Muslim majority areas. Pakistan Resolution was a landmark in the history of the sub-continent.

Why the Muslims passed the Pakistan Resolution and demanded a separate homeland for themselves in the South-Asian sub-continent? The answer lies in the hard fact of history. The demand for Pakistan or the Pakistan Resolution was based on two nation theory, and the most clear and emphatic exposition of the theory can be put as follows.

Hinduism and Islam represented two distinct and separate civilisations and were, in fact, as distinct from one another in origin, tradition and manner of life as were the different European nations. In the Indian sub-continent, there was a major and a

minor nation, and it followed that a parliamentary system based on the principle of majority rule must inevitably mean the rule of the major nation. Therefore, a constitution must be evolved that recognised the fact there were in the sub-continent two nations, both of whom must share the government of their "common motherland." By the beginning of 1940, the Quaid-i-Azam declared "We are by no means a minority but a solid and distinct nation by ourselves with a destiny of our own." And in his presidential address to the Muslim League session at Lahore, at which the partition resolution was passed, Quaid-i-Azam explained the two nation theory in detail. He argued:

"Notwithstanding a thousand years of close contact, nationalities, which are as divergent today as ever, cannot at any time be expected to transform themselves into one nation merely by means of subjecting them to democratic constitution and holding them forcibly together by unnatural and artificial methods of British parliamentary statute." The problem in India was not "of an inter-communal character but manifestly of an inter-national one," and it must be treated as such. If Britain was really in earnest and sincerely wanted to secure the peace and happiness of India, it should "allow the major nations separate homelands by

dividing India into 'autonomous national states.'" Hinduism and Islam were not only religious in the strict sense of the word, but were, in fact, "different and distinct social orders, and it is a dream that the Hindus and Muslims can ever evolve a common nationality, and this misconception of one Indian nation has gone far beyond the limits and is the cause of most of our troubles and will lead India to destruction if we fail to revise our notions in time. The Hindus and Muslims belong to two different religious, philosophies, social customs, literatures. They neither intermarry nor inter-dine together and, indeed, they belong to two different civilisations which are based mainly on conflicting ideas and conceptions. Their aspects of life and of life are different. It is quite clear that Hindus and Muslims derive their inspiration from different sources of history. They have different epics, different heroes, and different episodes."

The fact was that Muslims had maintained their separate entity in the Indian sub-continent for about one thousand years, first as victorious invaders and imperial rulers and since 1857 as fellow-subjects of the British and, they were 25 per cent of the total population. When the Hindus awoke to their position of strength vouchsafed by numerical majority, the Muslims realised their peril and reassessed their ancient superiority.

Quaid-i-Azam's proclamation that Indian sub-continent was inhabited by two distinct nations —

Hindus and Muslims — was not a new concept. The fact of their being separate entities was recognised by a number of statesmen and intellectuals of the Hindus and the British as well. And the proposal for a separate homeland for the Muslims on the line of the Pakistan Resolution was already put forward by the poet-philosopher of Pakistan, Allama Mohammad Iqbal, in 1930 in order to "save the Muslims from the domination of non-Muslims." The cardinal point on which Iqbal stressed was the Muslim identity "as a distinct political unit," based primarily on cultural difference. And it was this Muslim ideology which has to be saved. As the struggle for independence and achievement of Pakistan went on, the ideals were put forward with all clarity. "What is it that keeps the Muslims united as one man," said the Quaid, "and what is the bedrock and sheet anchor of the community. It is Islam. It is the Great Book, the Quran, that is the sheet anchor of Muslim India. I am sure that as we go on and on, there will be more and more of oneness — one God, one Book, one Qibla, one Prophet and one Nation."

And, at last, a united nation with a national will, and complete faith in their just and righteous cause, and unfinching loyalty, trust and confidence in their leader — a cool, calculating master strategist — that, with the grace of God, the Muslims of the South-Asian sub-continent achieved their independence and Pakistan came into being on Aug. 14, 1947.



Nizar Qabbani reminisces about London on BBC

London and Madrid are the cities which most influenced his poetry, Nizar Qabbani, the Syrian poet, recalls in an interview to be broadcast by the BBC Arabic Service programme "Oasis" on Saturday, March 28. He is talking to Selva Jarrar. Mr. Qabbani was a diplomat in Britain and Spain and it was during this time that his poetry was shaped by his experiences. "London made me realise for the

first time the meaning of the relationship between men and women. I wrote of women as a friend, not as a lover," says Mr. Qabbani. "This was a very new concept in Arabic poetry." Nizar Qabbani's interview can be heard in the BBC Arabic Service programme "Oasis" on Saturday, March 28, at 1630 (GMT).

Restored palaces shimmer in sun of Saudi Arabia

By Philip Shehadi
Reuters

DIR'YAH, Saudi Arabia — Rising above the date palms of this oasis, the palaces of early Saudi princes shimmer in the desert sun once again.

The palaces have risen from the ruins of Dir'iyah, once the seat of power in the Arabian peninsula until sacked twice by the Turks in the 19th century.

They are being restored to their former splendour from oil wealth of the modern Islamic state of Saudi Arabia.

Dir'iyah nestles amid date palms and tamarisk trees in a lush valley 11 kilometres from the present capital Riyadh in central Arabia.

Mohammad Ibn Saud Al Muqrin founded the first Saudi state here in 1726 and his sons, bursting with the force of a new Islamic creed, set forth to conquer Arab tribes from Iraq to Yemen.

They built palaces, mosques, bazaars, walls and towers.

British explorer Harry St. John Philby, who visited the site in 1917, described it as "the noblest monument in all Wahhabland" — his name for central Arabia under the sway of the austere religious teaching of Sheikh Mohammad Ibn Abdul Wahhab.

A Turkish army led by Ibrahim Pasha, son of the ruler of Egypt Mohammed Ali, besieged and pounded Dir'iyah for six months with cannonballs and guns until it surrendered in 1819.

The city was sacked again by the Turks in 1821 when some Saudi princes tried to retake it.

Dir'iyah lay in ruins until restoration began seven years ago.

"There was near total destruction," consultant Hassan Al Ashiri of the Department of Antiquities told Reuters. "In the least damaged palaces, we had only the exterior walls. And they were filled with debris and gravel."

Restoration of Dir'iyah was the first priority of the department when it was formed in 1973, just as soaring oil revenues launched the kingdom on an unprecedented development boom.

The first task was to move some 200 families living in mud houses on the edge of the ruins since 1940, when the government first allowed people to return to the historical settlement.

By 1981, the last of them had been resettled in modern villas on the other side of the wadi and work began in earnest on the two best preserved palaces — those of Nasser and Saad Bin Saud, sons of Saud the Great who ruled from

1765 to 1803.

Saud the Great was a first cousin of Turki Bin Abdullah, who expelled the Turks and established a new capital in Riyadh in 1824. The reigning Saudi monarch, King Fahd Bin Abdulaziz, is a descendant of Turki.

For the restoration, original materials are being used — limestone for the foundations and columns, mud and brick for the walls, tamarisk beams covered with palm fronds and leaves for the roofs.

But the department resorted to modern technology to add a new kind of protective plastic coating to preserve the mud plaster against the extremes of heat and cold, wind, rain and dust.

The palaces contain much intricate and delicate work with ornamental stepped crenellations and small triangular windows forming patterns on the walls.

Workers have refashioned wooden doors painted with bright designs of red and green dots. Inside, simple rooms with coloured ceilings surround a spacious courtyard.

Ashiri said this year should see complete renovation of the Turki bath, which historians think Saud the Great built after seeing them in Iraq during a raiding expedition.

Lee Remick revels in portraying tormented women

By Ronald Clarke
Reuters

LOS ANGELES — Lee Remick's latest role is a socialite mother who persuades her 17-year-old son to kill his millionaire grandfather.

Remick, 51, specialises in playing tormented women. "Women so seemingly in control, but so out of control of their passions," she explains.

The actress, who burst onto the screen as a sexy drum major in "A Face in the Crowd," became Jack Lemmon's cast-aside ex-wife in "Tribute," was a neurotic daughter in "A Delicate Balance" and a tormented wife in "The Letter," stars this month in an American television mini-series, "Nutcracker: Money, Madness, Murder," based on the story of Frances Schreuder.

Schreuder, 48, was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1982 for the murder of her 76-year-old father, William Bradshaw.

Her son, Marc, convicted of second degree murder, said at his mother's trial she forced him to shoot his grandfather because she feared Bradshaw would cut her out of his will.

"At first I was not at all interested in playing in such a bizarre story," Remick told a group of reporters about her latest role. "But then I started reading the book by journalist Shana Alexander on which the series is based."

"I couldn't get the character of Frances Schreuder out of my head during the filming," she said, pushing a hand elegantly through her long blonde hair.

"I wouldn't exactly take her home in terms of behaviour, thank God. But I would never stop thinking about her."

"She was there all the time, mulling around. Ideas would come and go at strange times of day and night. And the character just builds. It's a slow process, almost impossible to specify."

Many stars would have tried to give Schreuder at least a hint of warmth to win over the audience.

"I found nothing about Frances that would call for sympathy and had no wish to give her any," Remick said bluntly. "That, I think, would be a basically immoral way to deal with the character," she said.

In "Nutcracker," she ages 27 years, from a college student to a 46-year-old mother.

Remick portrayed Sir Winston Churchill's mother in the television series "Jennie" and Eleanor Roosevelt in "Eleanor: In Her Own Words." But she has never portrayed a live person before.

Asked if she had seen Schreuder, Remick said: "Initially, I thought great. I'll go zapping off to Utah State prison and meet her and won't that be terrific. I was then informed that that would not be such a good idea. She, of course, has no memory."

"I think it's just as well I didn't meet her. I don't think it



Lee Remick

would have informed me any further of the character than what was in the book and the script."

The role of Frances Schreuder was played in an earlier television series by Stefanie Powers. Asked what she thought of two actresses playing the same role, Remick said: "Well, we laughed from beginning when Stefanie called

me and said 'I know you're doing Nutcracker, guess what I'm doing.'"

"And we giggled and laughed because we were working actresses and we are friends. And we were both offered this wonderful role. And I thought well, it's slightly crazy, but that's OK."

No one could have had less training in real life for playing tormented characters.

Remick's father owned a department store in Quincy, Massachusetts, and she had a happy childhood and went to finishing school and college before appearing in "A Face in the Crowd."

She was at one time hailed as "America's answer to Brigitte Bardot."

But, off screen, she was a wife to television producer Bill Coleran and mother of two children and a homemaker in between roles. She was nominated for an Oscar in 1982 for her role in the film "The Days of Wine and Roses."

Remick found being a film star mother made life difficult for her children. "It's not easy when your mother is on the screen acting like, say, a slut," she said. "You just want your mother to be safe and boring."

Her marriage to Coleran ended in divorce in 1969 and the following year she married British producer Kip Gowans. They lived in London for 10 years before dividing their time between homes in Los Angeles and Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

Remick said she will go to London for her next role, "The Vision," with British actor Dirk Bogarde. She will play the head of a vast religious network who seeks to blanket Europe with her programme.

"It's quite a different character and piece of material from what I've just finished and that is how I prefer to work," she said. "And England is very close and dear to my heart."

'Spirit of Lei Feng' makes comeback amid conservatism

By Donna Anderson
The Associated Press

BEIJING — The cult of Lei Feng, a peasant soldier who became a hero in the 1960s for his legendary selflessness, is making a comeback 25 years after his death.

As part of the current backlash against Western liberalism triggered by student protests last year, the Communist government has resurrected the example of Lei and others who toiled tirelessly for the common good.

Lei, who died in a 1962 car accident, was perhaps the best-known of China's model workers — people singled out by the government for emulation.

His return to the limelight has been accompanied in the official news media by praise for other workers of lesser fame but similar devotion to serving the party and people.

The newly resurrected heroes are a far cry from the profit-minded factory managers, private entrepreneurs and wealthy peasants praised in recent years as pillars of China's market-force economic reforms. In the past few months, mention of such figures has virtually ceased.

The change is among the most visible signs of China's abrupt turn to ideological conservatism in reaction to the pro-democracy student protests.

In a propaganda blitz commemorating this week's 24th anniversary of an appeal by Mao Tse-tung for the nation to "learn from Lei Feng," the state-run central television news broadcast celebrations held in several Chinese cities.

Leading officials, including Politburo members Yu Qijun, Hu Qiaomu and Hu Qili, attended a discussion meeting about Lei Feng at the Zhongnanhai Communist Party headquarters, the report said.

"The spirit of Lei Feng is the spirit of Communism," Yu was quoted as saying. "It is the spirit of serving the people with all of one's heart and mind. It is the spirit of ardently loving the party, ardently loving the motherland, overcoming, learning, ardently struggling, selflessness and living

to make people happy."

The television broadcast said many children and young people do not understand the thought and actions of Lei, and people of the 1980s must learn from him as Chinese of the 1960s did.

Lei, who was born in 1940, became a hero following his death in 1962. He was initially praised during a campaign to rectify the attitudes of Chinese soldiers.

According to official accounts, Lei was rejected for military service because he was short and underweight, but he persuaded the army to take him because of his fervid patriotism. He trained late into the night to keep up with his fellow soldiers, the accounts say.

The 1960s "learn from Lei Feng" campaign included articles, essays, poems, songs and exhibitions, as well as pictures depicting Lei doing secret good deeds, such as washing comrades' clothing.

The television broadcast said every party organisation again should organise "learn from Lei Feng" activities.

Among the reports from different cities was one praising the performance of a collective named for Lei. Several showed school children and teen-agers cleaning windows and buildings, washing the hair of handicapped and elderly people and doing other service work.

Thousands of youths participated, the reports said.

There have been other signs of renewed adulation for Lei, such as posters on China's main shopping thoroughfare, Wangfujing Street, depicting Lei and other model workers performing acts of service.

The television broadcast was the latest of several on Lei that began to crop up last month as part of a campaign against bourgeois liberalism — the favouring of Westernisation and capitalism over Socialism — that was launched in response to the student protests.

The very first target of the campaign, scientist Fang Lizhi, was accused of negating the "spirit of Lei Feng."

Historic fort in Bahrain restored

By Aly Mahmoud
The Associated Press

MANAMA, Bahrain — Restoration work on a historic Arabian Gulf fort, which once withstood a Portuguese siege, was completed Saturday and will soon be resounding to the sound of nilotic music.

The 4-century old Arad Fort, which once dominated the narrow approaches to the Bahraini island of Muharraq, fended off the Portuguese and other seaborne invasion attacks.

The prime minister, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, flanked by information minister Tariq Al Moayyed, in a speech commended the restoration work that "links us to our past ... a proof of our ancestors' defence of this good earth (Bahrain)."

An Egyptian music troupe, named posthumously after

Arabs' most famous prima donna Umm Kalthoum, has arrived in Bahrain to lead an open air festival at the fort. It will be the first of several outdoor festivals at the floodlit site.

The fort's adversaries included not merely foreign invaders but the harsh weather of the Gulf as well.

British archaeologist Archie Walls, who has spent three years renovating the fort, said that when he took on the project "Arad was critical."

"The erosion of the structure when we started was so extreme that we found elements had eroded a 2-metre wide wall to only 30 centimetres," he said in an interview. "The structure was actually moving with one 40-centimetre thick wall holding up a 470-tonne bastion."

Walls and his team have literally spent thousands of hours re-

novating the fort, whose cannons used to control shipping to the nearby Muharraq Bay.

During the renovations, the team discovered a cannon ball embedded in a badly damaged section of the fort.

Walls said that documents taken from archives in Portugal depicted Arad Fort under attack by a force using artillery.

The Portuguese force, he said, probably came from an earlier established Portuguese fort on Bahrain's north coast.

Walls said he believed the fort was built by an Arab chieftain who was "a man of power and considerable means."

"He certainly had great organisational abilities to transport material such as lime, gypsum and palm trees from different parts of the island," he said.

Exactly who built Arad Fort remains a mystery, and for many

years it was believed the Portuguese were in fact responsible.

However, Walls said the building technique — like that of an ice cake — had been used by Arab builders in Oman, Jordan, Iraq and Yemen, with the oldest dating back to 74 AD.

Walls' 3-year project has been carried out under coordination of Al Moayyed who is backing ambitious tourism and archaeological dig programmes on this island.

Arad Fort, with its night lit-up, is virtually the first thing visitors to the island state see upon touching down at the international airport.

The first festival earmarked for the Egyptian Folkloric Troupe is seen as the first practical application of the island's plans to promote ancient monuments as more than just "stone edifices."

Randa Habib's Corner

Facelifting the mask

ARE you feeling down, depressed, overburdened and overwhelmed with responsibilities? Then do what my husband and I did. Go to the hairdresser, shape up, buy a new suit. Believe me, this is the best cure, it worked for us and I see no reason why it shouldn't work for you. Anyhow, the following is an exact description of what we recently did in order to boost our morale, thanks to a concerned friend.

First of all we changed all our wardrobe. All our dresses and suits ended up in the garbage — everything. The excitement was beyond description. We chose different colours and different designs for our new clothes. We kept trying them on and looking into the mirror and believe me, we immediately felt much, much better. We didn't even pay attention to the huge bill for all this shopping, as we believed that our mood is more important than our bank account, besides what are banks for?

Then, we looked carefully at our car and we realised that we could no longer stand the sight of its red colour. So, we had it repainted charcoal. A much more elegant and subtle colour. In the meantime, and in order to save money, we cut down the salaries of our domestic helpers and we chopped off the overtime allowance for the gardener, after all, his needs are no way near ours and a few dollars less won't add much to his misery. We also took a decision to reduce our expenditure at home. As our monthly energy bill is impressive, we decided to turn off the lights and the heating at home, and to keep only the garden and the gate lit at night. By keeping the outdoor lights on, we felt that the advantage would be that all our neighbours and passers-by would have the impression that everything is functioning alright at our home.

Finally, we pumped all the money we saved into our cosmetics factory. You know, that factory that we have been running for years, and which incidentally is the cause of all our stress and financial difficulties. So, if you happen to be overburdened, you now know the way out.

China remembers 'rape of Nanking'

By Lai Kwok Kin
Reuters

NANKING, China — Zhu Qingsui was not yet born when his grandfather was machine-gunned to death but he knows the details too well. His father made sure of that.

Zhu's grandfather was in a house with several others in the east China city of Nanking when invading Japanese soldiers fired at random, killing everyone inside.

It was December 13, 1937, the start of a six-week orgy of slaughter, looting, rape and terror by Japanese forces that China says left more than 300,000 people dead.

"My grandfather was in his thirties and my grandmother was left with four children," said Zhu, a 36-year-old driver. "My father who tells me about it all the time says the Japanese were too cruel. This is all before my time and it is not so important to me," he said.

The Chinese government, however, wants Zhu and others to care and remember as it marks the 50th anniversary this year of the "rape of Nanking", one of the bloodiest and most bitter chapters in modern Chinese history.

Japan has become China's biggest trading partner since the two countries resumed formal diplomatic ties in 1972 but the Nanking incident continues to cast a shadow over their relations.

Chinese authorities plan a series of activities in December, to be held mainly in Nanking, to mark the 1937 incident.

Officials said they could not release details yet but Yang Zhengyuan, one of the organisers, said: "We must let the masses and future generations remember the incident. It will teach them to be patriotic."

Yang is director of a memorial hall built two years ago on the outskirts of Nanking to commemorate the victims.

"Half a century has passed and Japan has already paid the price with the dropping of two atomic bombs but history must not be

forgotten," Yang told Reuters. About 190,000 people were killed by mass firing squads while another 150,000 were beheaded or bayoneted to death, Yang said.

As many as 50,000 people were killed in one particular incident, Yang said, with bodies piling on top of each other as machine-guns fired continuously over several hours.

Japanese soldiers raped 27,000 Nanking women, including old women and a young girl who was assaulted 37 times, Yang said.

Some Japanese scholars have disputed the estimate of 340,000 dead but Yang said there was "indisputable evidence" from post-war trials, confessions by Japanese soldiers, press reports and burial records.

"Rivers and ponds turned red with the blood of the victims and even now mass burial sites are sometimes discovered during construction work in Nanking," he said.

The six-week bloodbath was the climax of the invasion of China which began in 1931. By 1939, all of east China was in Japanese hands.

Yang said the memorial was not aimed at stirring up hatred of the Japanese but at evoking the feeling of tragedy for those who suffered.

Covering 25,000 square metres, the sombre, grey memorial contains two buildings. One displays skeletons of victims, and the other, photographs and records of the period.

One of the pictures shows two Japanese soldiers with samurai swords who had been competing for the highest number of beheadings. The score: 106 to 105. The buildings are at the edge of a field of white pebbles, representing the bones of the dead, surrounded by jagged granite walls sculpted with scenes of the torture, rape and killing.

In the centre of this bleak landscape are several dead tree trunks symbolising the loss of life and a five-metre statue of a mother looking for her lost children.

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Ali Rawashdeh.

Edberg tallies 1st victory over McEnroe to win in Rotterdam

ROTTERDAM (R) — Top-seeded Stefan Edberg of Sweden beat John McEnroe for the first time when he won the Rotterdam Grand Prix Tournament 3-6, 6-3, 6-1 with a cool show of power play.

Edberg, ranked third in the world, dropped the first set as McEnroe upset his rhythm with a display of tantrums over disputed line calls, but then battled back to clinch the \$50,000 prize in one hour 57 minutes on Sunday.

It was his third tournament win this season.

"It's the first time I've beaten him. I'm happy now. I started to serve well and get some shots back. I don't think it was a great match, but we both worked hard," said Edberg.

Fourth-seeded McEnroe, struggling to overcome a slight case of hip tendonitis, said: "I hurt a little bit, especially against his volleys. He's one of the best volleyers playing."

McEnroe said he would decide Monday if he was fit enough to play at Brussels in the next tournament on the European circuit.

McEnroe, the former world number one, won the first set in just under an hour on his third set point when Edberg misjudged a volley.

The fiery American showed his self-imposed break from tennis last year may have sapped some of his concentration, but not his ability to berate the umpire and photographers.

In the second set, Edberg came back with some blinding forehand shots and broke McEnroe's serve at 4-2.

In one memorable rally,



Stefan Edberg

Edberg played McEnroe around the court before winning the point with a delightful drop-shot. McEnroe vented his anger on his kit-bag.

Despite appearing aggressive at the start of the third set, McEnroe lost his way once Edberg achieved an early break.

Paris-Peking-Paris air race stops in Amman

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The crews of the seventeen light aircraft, vying to win the 35,000 kilometre Paris-Peking-Paris air race, arrived in Amman from Bombay, India, on Saturday night and early Sunday morning.

Microjet Mammoth, piloted by Raymond Michel with co-pilot Remy Grasset, leads the race. It also won the Bombay-Amman leg, by flying the 2,260 nautical miles in 17 hours and 56 minutes.

In second place was Italia Wings, a Cessna 310, with a flight time of 13 hours and 35 minutes. The Manpower, another Cessna 310 captained by Delio Iglesia and Jean-Claude de Lassee, won the third position with a flight time of 13 hours and 41 minutes.

Two aircraft, Biofrance and Le Havre, which had been delayed Saturday night in Abu Dhabi for technical failures, managed to follow the rest to Amman Sunday morning.

The crews and sponsors are expected to stay on for the next two days before flying to Rome — their penultimate leg on the schedule which will take them to Paris, signalling the end of the unprecedented sports event begun on Feb. 27, according to the race director Bernard Lamy.

Mr. Lamy told a press conference that his main goal was to return to Paris safely with same number of crew.

Mr. Lamy spoke of the race and difficult encounters faced by the pilots, who have already flown over 19 countries from Paris to Peking and back again. Light single-engine and twin-engine aircraft qualified for the race which will be held again two years from now.

The criteria for the winners are a combination of factors, including the optimum altitude, per-

formance and the power of the engine. Landing times and ground speeds are also calculated in selecting the winners at the end of the race, said Mr. Lamy.

The main sponsors for the aircraft and equipment are Dr. Ghaith Phai'a, a prominent Saudi businessman, the Italian Il Messaggero newspaper, the Inter-nike consulting company and the Swiss-branch of Pilar Corporation.

The crews, sponsors, journalists and cameramen who made a series of films from on-board the aircrafts, were invited to a reception held by the Italian ambassador to Jordan, Luigi Amaduzzi.

The Royal Jordanian's Royal Falcons were due to stage an aerobatics show in honour of the air race. Competitors during a ceremony on Monday which His Majesty King Hussein plans to attend and to present the first three winners with prizes.

Kenyans take first two places in cross-country

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Kenya's John Ngugi overcame a leg injury to defend his men's title at the 15th World Cross Country Championships in Warsaw Sunday, while Annette Sergent of France sprinted from behind to take the women's crown.

Ngugi, 25, edged out fellow countryman Paul Kipkoech at the finish, with both runners recording identical times of 36 minutes, seven seconds for the 11,950-metre race.

Paul Arpin of France was a surprise third-place finisher, ending the race 44 seconds behind the two Kenyans.

Ngugi, who won last year's World Championships at Neuchatel, Switzerland, had been performing poorly recently due to a leg injury, and there had been doubts as to whether he would make the trip to Warsaw to compete.

Inter beats Napoli to revive race in Italy

ROME (R) — Internazionale Milan revived the hopes of a host of chasing clubs when it beat leader Napoli 1-0 Sunday and reopened the race for the Italian First Division soccer championship.

A goal just six minutes from time by Giuseppe Bergomi secured victory for third-placed Internazionale and sent Napoli tumbling to only its second defeat.

With seven weeks of the season left, Napoli is three points clear of Roma who beat Empoli 2-1. But, with its lead cut back by two points, it looks less assured of carrying off its first championship trophy.

Internazionale appeared to be fully recovered from its disappointing UEFA Cup exit against Gothenburg of Sweden and resisted wave upon wave of attacks from Diego Maradona, Salvatore Bagni and Fernando Di Napoli before stealing victory.

Goalkeeper Walter Zenga made several outstanding saves to keep Internazionale in the match, enabling it to launch a series of counter-attacks spearheaded by

veteran striker Alessandro Altobelli.

The game seemed to be heading towards a draw until veteran Italian midfielder Marco Tardelli supported an attack in the 84th minute. An accurate cross found Bergomi in space in the penalty area and he finished accurately.

Napoli's defeat will have given particular encouragement to Roma who consolidated its grip on second place with its win over Empoli.

Roma, who beat Argentina in a friendly last Thursday, went ahead through Marco Baroni in the 47th minute. Andrea Salvadore replied three minutes later, but Paolo Baldieri hit the winner in the 58th minute.

Roma lies one point ahead of Internazionale and defending champion Juventus who produced flashes of its old class as it beat Como 1-0. Lionello Manfredonia scoring the decisive goal in the ninth minute.

AC Milan, who will welcome Dutch striker Ruud Gullit to its ranks at the end of the season, fell a point behind after drawing 2-2 at Fiorentina.

Standings in Italian First Division

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Napoli	23	13	8	2	34	13	34
Roma	23	12	7	4	32	16	31
Internazionale	23	12	6	5	29	15	30
Juventus	23	11	8	4	32	20	30
Milan	23	11	7	5	24	14	29
Sampdoria	23	9	7	7	25	17	25
Verona	23	8	9	6	25	22	25

Bordeaux maintains form in French Cup 1st round

PARIS (R) — Bordeaux, fresh from knocking Torpedo Moscow out of the European Cupwinners' Cup on Wednesday, began its defence of the French Cup with a 3-1 victory over Racing Club de Paris Saturday night.

Striker Philippe Fargeon put Bordeaux ahead in the fifth minute, but Racing's West German import Pieter Lithbarski quickly levelled the score, shooting on the turn after receiving the ball with his back to goal in the ninth minute.

French international Patrick Battiston put Bordeaux in the lead once again with a penalty just before half time, and a second goal from Fargeon sealed the issue.

Surprise first round casualties were First Division Metz and Sochaux who lost to Second Division sides Reims and Mulhouse.

Buoyed by its league performance, Metz underestimated Reims, who attacked from the opening whistle and delighted its home crowd with a 2-1 win.

Elsewhere mighty Marseille, last year's runner-up, scraped a hollow 2-1 victory over Third Division Versailles.

With Marseille showing a complete lack of imagination, only Alain Giresse managed to break through the underdogs' close marking to score in the first half. Jean-Pierre Bade hit Marseille's second in the 70th minute.

Evert Lloyd, Shriver meet in Dallas final

DALLAS (R) — Top seed Chris Evert Lloyd stopped a tenacious third-seeded Zina Garrison 3-6, 6-1, 6-0 to advance to the final of the \$250,000 Dallas Classic women's tennis tournament where she will face second seed Pam Shriver.

Shriver earlier defeated sixth-seeded Lori McNeil 7-5, 6-3 to set up the first all-American women's final in six months.

Garrison won an erratic first set, breaking Lloyd's serve three times. But the flat-footed, third-seeded American could win only one game in the next two sets as Lloyd, 32, and ranked third in the world, raised her game several notches.

"In the second and third sets I played very, very well and everything worked," Lloyd said.

Down 1-4 in the second set, Garrison left the court to change her clothes. But the break in the action did not affect Lloyd's momentum as the top seed won the next two games.

Lloyd did not let up in the final set as she broke the 23-year-old's serve three times to reach the final.

Lloyd, who has dropped only two sets this week, could capture her first title in nine months when she plays Shriver, whom she has beaten in all 17 previous encounters.

McNeil attacked Shriver's second serve relentlessly throughout their match and broke the second seed in the third game of the first set on a pair of forehand winners and again at love in the fifth game.

1987 Jordan Rally testing ground for World Championship series

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Jordan leg of this year's Middle East Rally Championship rounds, scheduled to be held on April 15 to April 17, is of high significance to rally enthusiasts in the Middle East since it could be the barometer for the annual event to be named one of the World Championship series in 1988.

The forthcoming event, the sixth international rally to be held in the Kingdom, is the third round of the Middle East Championship and is expected to bring together talented drivers from all over the Gulf, and from Lebanon, as well as Cyprus.

The final list of entrants will be published on Saturday, initial information indicates that famous rally ace like Saeed Al Hajri of Qatar, Mohammad Ibn Sulayem of the United Arab Emirates, Michel Saleh from Lebanon and His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ibn Hussein top the list, in addition to others from Jordan such as Nabil Karam, Hanif Bisharat and George Haddad.

An added attraction of this year's rally is the participation, for the first time, of Soviet drivers. The Soviet Union has confirmed the sending of five cars to race in Jordan's rally.

The 1,360-kilometre rally, which will include 410 kilometres of special stages through some of the toughest terrain in Jordan, will begin from the Roman amphitheatre in downtown

Amman.

According to the Royal Automobile Club of Jordan (RACJ), organisers of the event, the level of difficulty and the nature of the terrain included in the rally will surpass some of the standards set by the Federation Internationale Du Sport Automobile (FISA), the international body whose regulations govern all world recognised rallying events. In fact, it was the quality of organisation in past Jordan rallies that prompted FISA to consider the Jordan Rally as a candidate for inclusion in the World Championship series, according to a RACJ spokesman.

The choice of the Roman amphitheatre as the starting point for the rally, which begins at 4.30 p.m. on April 15, is in line with the aim of underlining the importance of historical sites in Jordan, according to a press release by the RACJ, which is cooperating with the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities to help promote Jordan's tourist and historic attractions to the outside world.

The first leg of the rally will cover the northern regions of the Kingdom and participant vehicles will race to the ancient Greco-Roman city of Jerash and back. The second leg starts on the next day from the Amman Marriott Hotel; the day's race covers both the main road and the desert that lies between Amman and the famous rose-red ancient city of Petra.

The third day of the rally starts at the Petra Guest House in Qatraneh, from where the cars that survived the gruelling test of

the first two days will begin their return journey to Amman. The route will cover the twisting mountainous Kings Highway and some special stages crossing the famous Hijaz Railway which is associated with the Great Arab Revolt.

The rally ends the same day at the Amman Marriott Hotel; results are expected to be announced in about one hour after the first car reaches the hotel.

A total of six rallies make up this year's Middle East Rally Championship. The first two rallies have already been held, in Qatar (Feb. 19-20) and Kuwait (March 19-20). The other three, after the Jordan Rally are to be held in Lebanon (Oct. 9-11), Oman (Oct. 28-30) and Dubai (Dec. 3-4).

Hajri, several-time Middle East champion, won the first two rallies and is the leading contender for this year's championship, after staying away from the 1986 championship and concentrating on European rallies.

Several international observers, including top FISA officials, are expected in Amman to witness the April 15-17 event. The rally is also of great interest to the international media in that it is a candidate for the World Championship series.

Grimes sent off for abusing teammate

LONDON (R) — Luton and Norwich played out a tedious 0-0 draw, but the game was far from uneventful for Luton's Ashley Grimes who was sent off six minutes from time for violent conduct — towards a teammate.

The Irish midfielder was sent off by referee Mike James when he launched into a scathing verbal attack on fullback Rob Johnson after Norwich had nearly scored Saturday.

Italian wins world junior featherweight title

ISCHIA, Italy (AP) — Italian Salvatore Bottiglieri captured the vacant world junior featherweight title Saturday night by knocking out Argentina's Osmar Avila in the seventh round.

Referees stopped the fight after Bottiglieri, Italy's 27-year-old featherweight champion, delivered a series of hard blows to the head of his opponent.

The match was not one-sided, however. Avila, also 27, took the offensive in the opening round, setting the tone for a furious exchange of blows between the two fighters during the next three rounds.



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Cinema Tel: 622198

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Weekly Financial Report

The following report summarizes trading activities in Amman of major European and Arab currencies as well as gold prices. The writer is a foreign exchange dealer at the Arab Finance Corporation (merged with Halim Salafiti and Sons Co.).

By Fouad Batsbou

AMMAN — Last week the U.S. dollar opened weak at its lowest value but dealers were still cautious on whether to sell more or to stay aside because they still feared the intervention of central banks.

The dollar traded in a very narrow range without interest from international and local dealers to make big profits. It traded between 0.3398-0.3415 fils to the JD.

Decisions taken by the Group of Five were behind this very narrow trading range of the dollar. Charts indicate that the dollar is going to fall this week to new levels against the European currencies, though not dangerous enough that the central banks may intervene.

The expected ranges for this week are 0.336-0.341 fils.

The pound sterling was still the sole gainer in the currency market. Sterling pushed higher against the European currencies and the dollar, to reach 0.5550 fils on the JD

and 2.97 on the D.M.

Higher oil prices and higher interest rates were behind the big push of the sterling.

The D.M./S.F. moved in a mixed range trading between D.M. 0.1750-0.1850 and S.F. between 0.218-0.225 fils.

The Lebanese lira (L.L.) traded with a very narrow range because of the uncertainty around the political situation in the Lebanon. L.L. traded between (300-318) L.L./JD.

The Syrian lira traded between (70-60) S.L./JD and the Kuwaiti dinar traded between 1.2150 to 1.2225 on the JD. The Egyptian pound traded between 0.175-0.185 fils and the Iraqi dinar between 0.2400-0.2800 fils.

Metals traded in a very narrow range because of the uncertainty on the dollar market. Gold traded between \$402-\$407 an ounce and silver traded between \$3.50-\$3.60 an ounce. Charts still indicate the metals should try the lower levels and that gold must try \$398 before moving to \$412.

Gold prices in Amman based on the daily bulletin presented by the Jordan Jewellery Store Company are as follows:

Gold per gramme 21 carats JD 3.950 - JD 3.850

Gold per gramme 18 carats JD 3.750 - JD 3.556

Asian countries dominate world merchant shipbuilding

LONDON (R) — Japan, South Korea and China dominated world merchant shipbuilding in 1986 with South Korean production up by more than a third, according to figures released last week.

Lloyd's Shipping Register's annual summary of merchant ships completed in 1986 put Japan top of the league with 48.5 per cent of new world shipping tonnage.

This was down on 1985 when Japan accounted for more than half of all ships produced, but it still headed the lists for ships completed with 648 ships and for total gross tonnage with 8,177,953 tonnes.

South Korea was second with 128 new ships amounting to 3,642,495 tonnes followed by China with 35 new ships (641,451 tonnes), the summary said. Its figures for China included Taiwan.

Worldwide, orders placed during 1986 for new ships, were down. Lloyd's said they amounted to 12.7 million tonnes, approximately 4.1 million tonnes less than the total output of new ships during the year.

West Germany was in fourth place, followed by Brazil, Poland, East Germany and Denmark.

'Globalisation of financial markets poses big risks'

GENEVA (AP) — The increasing globalisation of financial markets has far outstripped regulation of the markets, posing unprecedented risks, a leading Swiss banker warned last week.

"The fear factor is enormous" among bankers and other participants in financial markets, said Mr. Hans-Juerg Rudloff, director general of Credit Suisse in Zurich.

The increasing use of sophisticated financial instruments is allowing companies to realise immediate gains against potentially enormous future risks, Mr. Rudloff said.

He criticised the pace of deregulation as "unconsidered," and called for more international cooperation designed to establish basic standards governing the use of such instruments.

Mr. Rudloff urged self-restraint on the part of investors until such a system can be established but said he didn't know how long it would take to create a regulatory system capable of dealing with the risks inherent in today's markets.

W. Germany will begin biggest privatisation move today

BONN (R) — The government will begin selling off its remaining interest in the huge Veba chemicals, energy and trading group on Monday in the largest privatisation ever made in West Germany.

Investors will be able to sign up to buy 10.1 million shares in Veba at a price of 250 marks (\$137) each in a transaction that will raise 2.525 billion marks (\$1.38 billion) for the centre-right government.

The sale of the shares, which represent 25.55 per cent of Veba's share capital, is the government's largest step to date in selling industrial holdings back to the private sector.

The flotation is also the biggest sale of a single company's stock to investors in the history of West Germany.

Veba, with wide-spread interests in energy, chemicals and trading, is one of the biggest companies in West Germany with annual sales of around 40 billion marks (\$22 billion).

Taiwan to buy Indonesian gas

JAKARTA (R) — Taiwan agreed to buy a 1.5 million tonnes of liquefied natural gas (LNG) annually from Indonesia over two decades in a deal ending three years of tough negotiations. An agreement signed by Taiwan's Chinese Petroleum Corporation and Indonesia's Pertamina oil company set an gas price based on the benchmark cost of Indonesia's premium Minas crude, currently at 17.56 a barrel, officials said. Indonesia, the world's largest exporter of natural gas, last month concluded a seven-month renegotiation of its LNG price with Japan, its largest customer, which buys 14.2 million tonnes of LNG a year. The settlement with Japan cleared the way for the contract signing with Taiwan, Pertamina said.

Horoscope and crosswords not received

Xerox to quit S. Africa

STAMFORD, Connecticut (AP) — Xerox Corp. is joining dozens of other U.S. companies by selling its South African holdings and leaving that country in protest to its apartheid policies, officials announced.

Xerox Corp.'s London affiliate, Rank Xerox Ltd., said last week it will sell its South African subsidiary to a South African electrical and electronics company for an undisclosed sum.

Rank Xerox South Africa Ltd. will be sold to Fintech, a member of the Altron group, a major electronics company, the company said.

Terms were not disclosed for the sale, which is to be completed by May 1, said Xerox, which is based in Stamford.

Last December, Xerox announced it was postponing a decision on whether to pull out of the white-lead country.

However, "the overall impact on the company (of the sale) will be virtually nil," said Mr. Peter Enderlin, managing director at the Smith Barney securities firm.

"Just about every multi-national corporation says that South Africa is less than one per cent of its sales and earnings."

Xerox has said that its South African unit provided less than one per cent of its nearly \$9 billion of annual sales.

In 1984, seven U.S. companies pulled out of South Africa, and in 1985, that figure jumped to 40. Last year, 49 U.S. companies left South Africa and so far this year, nine have left and another 15

have announced they are leaving, according to Mr. Alison Cooper, a research analyst at the Investor Responsibility Research Centre.

The Washington, D.C.-based centre is a non-profit firm which researches issues concerning institutional investors.

Mr. Cooper said in a telephone interview that there are still 207 U.S. companies in South Africa. That figure includes the 15 who have announced they plan to leave.

Mr. Cooper said Xerox has been the 14th largest U.S. employer in South Africa.

Rank Xerox South Africa Ltd. was founded in 1964 as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Rank Xerox. It markets a line of copiers and duplicators throughout South Africa and in Namibia, or South West Africa.

Xerox, like many companies, said it will retain distribution agreements. Mr. Cooper said that Eastman Kodak Co. was one of the few that left and ended all product sales in South Africa.

Rank Xerox employs about 800 people. The company has said it negotiated a promise from the buyer that the subsidiary's employees will not lose their jobs. The company also said it will create a foundation run by black leaders that will spend \$500,000 a year on social programmes after Xerox leaves.

Mr. Cooper said that other companies have made similar efforts in South Africa when they have announced they were leaving.

Hungary, Australia found first East-West brokerage firm

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — Two Western institutions and a Hungarian bank have founded the first East-West broker firm, with headquarters in Budapest, one of the partners announced earlier this month.

The Liechtenstein holding company Continental Industries Co. A.G., Austria's Girozentrale Bank, and the Hungarian Foreign Trade Bank Ltd. are equal partners, Girozentrale said in a statement.

The international investment agency "will engage in typical broker business with regard to securities as well as to the management of international invest-

ment loans," the statement said. "In addition it will be active in portfolio management and consulting service for international customers, as well as merchant banking, i.e. acting as a broker for the purchase and sale of companies, it said.

A Girobank official, who asked for anonymity, said one of the joint venture's priorities was attracting institutional and private investors.

With its relatively free economy, Hungary is among the Soviet Bloc's most prosperous nations, and the official said it has an untapped investment sector.

FAO reports sharp drop in rice prices

ROME (AP) — Weak demand and large supplies in 1986 caused the heaviest decline in international rice prices since 1982, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) said last week.

Supplies exceeding the demands, protectionism and increased competition among exporters all contributed to the worldwide fall in rice prices in 1986, a FAO report said.

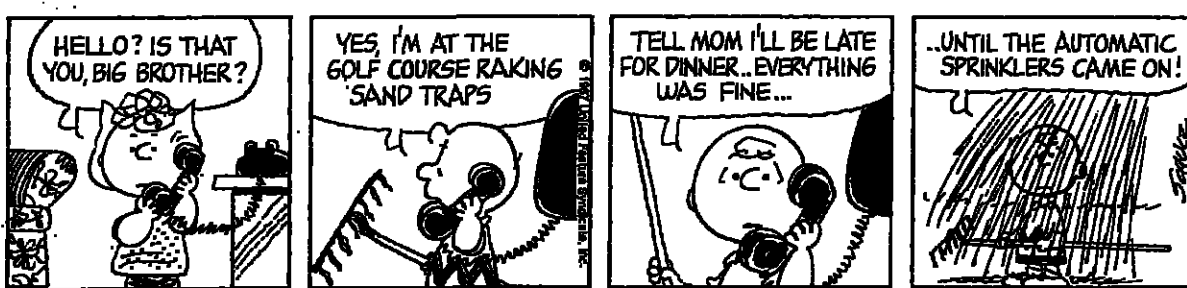
Although the prices have declined for five consecutive years, the reduction in 1986 was the largest, with prices averaging 15 per cent below their 1985 level and 25 per cent below the 1982-84 level, noted the report.

The report expressed concern over the adverse effect the depressed rice market has had on developing countries, where in 1986 export earnings fell an estimated 15 per cent from those recorded in 1985, and 40 per cent from those in 1982-84.

Prices have been firmer in early 1987, according to the report, although there was no clear indication as to how they would move during the remainder of the year.

However, supplies are expected to remain large relative to demand, with export availabilities likely to be reduced for the first time in five years, the report said.

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Belgrade will meet debt obligations

BELGRADE (R) — Yugoslavia, whose economic crisis is under close scrutiny by foreign creditors, will not follow Brazil by suspending repayments of its foreign debt, Prime Minister Branko Mikulic was Sunday quoted as saying.

Mr. Mikulic was speaking to West German journalists in an interview published by Tanjug news agency, in which he also warned the army could be called in if there were threats to Yugoslavia's political system.

"Yugoslavia is among very few countries that have fulfilled all their (debt) obligations and we shall continue to do so. But we think creditor countries and international institutions should show more understanding for our situation," he said.

Yugoslavia ended 1986 with a hard currency debt of \$19.7 billion. In 1986 it repaid a record \$3.97 billion in capital and interest, reducing its overall debt by \$996 million, according to official reports.

Government ministers told reporters last week Yugoslavia had made too great an effort in 1986, at great cost to the economy, and it regretted this.

Deputy Prime Minister Milos Milosavljevic said this month Yugoslavia needs new credits. Foreign Minister Raif Dizdarevic said this month in Caracas "radical changes" in interest rates and repayment times were needed.

Asked if Yugoslavia might follow Brazil's lead and suspend debt repayments, Mr. Mikulic said Yugoslavia was not considering this "but we have understanding for what that country did."

Western economists said, however, that Mr. Mikulic's remarks, taken with those of his ministers, could be a signal that

some problems were seen ahead in financing the debt repayments.

Mr. Mikulic is struggling with almost 100 per cent annual inflation, sluggish exports and low productivity, and has this month imposed partial freezes on wages and prices. The wage freeze led to widespread strikes.

Yugoslavia's debt refinancing timetable is to be considered by the Paris Club of Western creditors at the end of this month.

The International Monetary Fund, which recently reviewed the Yugoslav economy, is said by Western diplomats to be alarmed at a deteriorating economic situation here and the possibility of balance of payment problems later this year.

Mr. Mikulic will visit West Germany this week and debt is expected to figure high in his talks with Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Meanwhile, as Yugoslav petrol prices rose by 16 per cent Saturday, the Communist Party in an automobile association was reported to have disbanded itself in protest at a government wage freeze that triggered nationwide strikes this month.

The leading semi-official Belgrade newspaper Politika Ekspres said 15 of the 17 party representatives of the organisation, which provides roadside services in the Adriatic resort of Split, resigned from the party.

It said the protesters had written to the leadership of the ruling league of communists saying the government wage freeze law interfered with established party guidelines on income distribution.

The government approved steep rises in petrol and gas prices

despite announcing a temporary freeze on prices of many goods Friday night.

The new increase in petrol prices came on top of a 23.7 per cent rise in December. Car ownership was already falling as a result of economic austerity.

The cost of natural gas, used by most households for cooking and heating, was raised by 25.6 per cent, inflicting a heavy new blow on household budgets already suffering from a soaring annual inflation rate of almost 100 per cent.

On Saturday, the government announced many items, including food, consumer goods, tools, textiles and furniture would return to December price levels.

The price controls will come into force within five days and last for three months.

The price freeze followed strikes triggered by a Feb. 27 law which ordered wages to be returned to the average level of the last quarter of 1986 and pegged future pay rises to productivity increases.

The government said the latest fuel price rises were to keep up with the falling value of the dinar and with the price of imported oil and gas.

The dinar has tumbled by around 20 per cent in the past two months against a basket of major Western currencies and its downward slide is expected to continue. The government has said it is aiming for a "real" exchange rate of the dinar.

Under a 1984 prices law, the government may introduce price controls for maximum periods of six months and fix prices for special items such as petrol.

U.S., Japan reach brink 'of serious trade conflict'

TAUPO, New Zealand (R) — U.S. trade representative, Mr. Clayton Yeutter, said Sunday his country and Japan were on the brink of serious conflicts over trade.

At one stage Mr. Yeutter used the term trade war when speaking to reporters but he backed off when questioned further at a reception on the eve of a two-day meeting of world trade ministers.

The ministers are to review progress made since a round of negotiations in Uruguay last September, and will prepare for a full-scale conference of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in Venice in June.

Mr. Yeutter said the United States and the European Community (EC) came "very close to a trade war" over the issue of who should supply cereals to Spain.

"We are very close to that now with Japan, at least in terms of a potential retaliatory response by the United States over two or three controversial items," he added.

Asked to repeat the phrase, Mr. Yeutter replied: "No, not trade war, but in terms of a potential retaliatory kind of action by the United States."

Mr. Yeutter said the three issues were semi-conductors,

Japanese government unwillingness to see public entities buy U.S. supercomputers, and the barring of U.S. firms from the multi-billion-dollar Kansai airport project near Osaka.

EC Commissioner Willy De Clercq meanwhile told reporters he did not like the term trade war and preferred to call such disputes "serious conflicts."

He added that fights among the world's three major trading and economic powers — the EC, the United States and Japan — set a poor example for other GATT members.

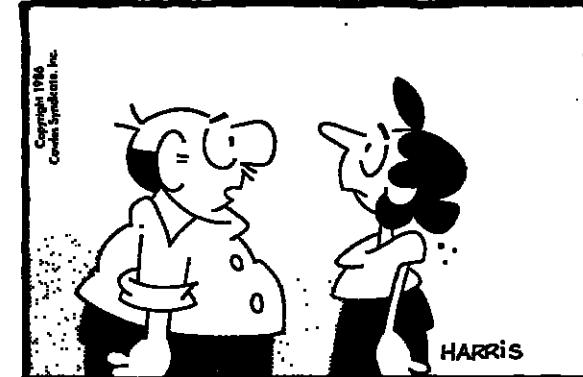
"There is a saying in French 'noblesse oblige'. I think that when you belong to the most powerful, most important (countries and groupings) you bear responsibilities and when you bear responsibilities you have to live accordingly," he said.

Australian Trade Minister John Dawkins told reporters that bilateral retaliation at the enormous expense of the rest of the world was no way to solve trade disputes.

New Zealand Trade Minister Mike Moore told his colleagues from more than 20 nations the next round of international trade negotiations would be the last this century and the cost of failure could not be measured.

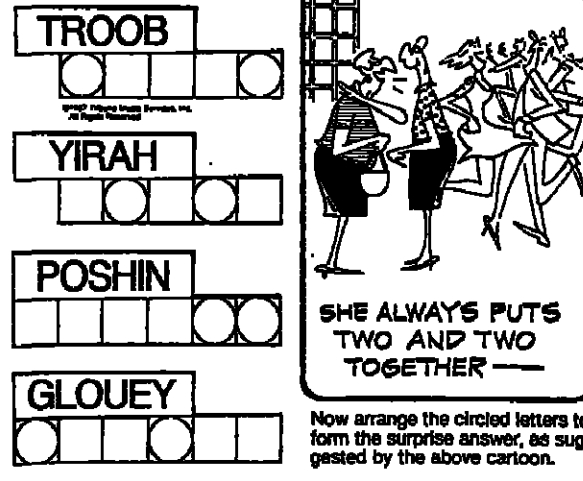
THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer: WHETHER THEY

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: SHINY VALET QUEASY CAMPUS

Answer: What do you get plenty of when King Kong walks through your vegetable garden? — "SQUASH"

Aquino vows to crush opponents of democracy

BAGUIO, Philippines (R) — President Corazon Aquino, conceding for the first time that last week's bombing at the Philippine military academy was aimed at her, Sunday vowed to end all threats to freedom from both left and right.

Mrs. Aquino, in a speech from the grandstand badly damaged by the blast, described the bombing as the greatest threat to her life since she became president 13 months ago.

"I walk freely among our people, protected by little more than their affection, and yet it is here in a military camp that the greatest threat to my life has been made," she said.

She vowed vengeance against those responsible for last Wednesday's explosion, which left four dead and more than 40 injured.

"My offers of peace and reconciliation have been met with the most bloody rejection... by the left and the right," Mrs. Aquino said, referring to Communist rebels whose 18-year-old insurgency has flared anew, and to rightists loyal to ousted President Ferdinand Marcos.

Before the end of her six-year term as president she would per-

manently end all threats to freedom," she said.

"To our enemies let me say: Give up your futile struggle if you have a drop of patriotism and humanity in your veins. Democracy is here to stay. It is your people you are killing. We will spare no effort and adopt any measure to protect them," Mrs. Aquino said.

"Nothing will intimidate this president. Death holds no fear for us, neither for the commander-in-chief nor for the soldiers in the line."

The blast occurred during a full rehearsal for today's graduation ceremony. Many of those who should have received awards at the parade were absent because of their injuries.

Investigators said the three bombs which exploded together were placed in the rafters of the grandstand, over the rostrum area where Mrs. Aquino spoke. They said the bombs were

attached to a timing device but had exploded prematurely.

Suggestions that Communist rebels were responsible have been largely discredited and suspicion centres on soldiers still loyal to Marcos.

Investigators said they were questioning a junior officer and three soldiers over the bombings but said the men were not yet being treated as suspects.

The bombing was a "dastardly act of cowardice," Mrs. Aquino told the ranks of cadets in full ceremonial uniform.

"We will find the perpetrators," she said.

In Manila, soldiers were put on full alert to forestall what the military described as "untoward incidents" while Mrs. Aquino and the entire senior leadership of the armed forces were in Baguio.

At an election campaign rally in Manila later in the afternoon, Mrs. Aquino said the government had suspects but the investigators still had to establish the motive.

"They are still investigating, there are already suspects but the motive of the terrorists are not known yet," Mrs. Aquino told a crowd of about 5,000 supporters.

Yugoslav premier says army will defend system

BELGRADE (R) — Yugoslav Prime Minister Branko Mikulic was quoted Sunday, in the wake of widespread strikes and rising political dissent, as saying that Yugoslavia will use the army if necessary to defend its Communist political system.

Mr. Mikulic made the statement in an interview given to West German reporters ahead of a visit he is scheduled to make to Bonn on Thursday and published Sunday by the official Yugoslav News Agency Tanjug.

Mr. Mikulic warned that if the Yugoslav constitutional system was threatened the authorities would use "all means" to defend the system, adding: "And that includes the army."

An unprecedented wave of strikes swept Yugoslavia this month in protest against a wage freeze Mikulic imposed on Feb. 27.

Under the freeze, the government ordered pay to be rolled back to the average levels of last quarter 1986 and pegged future wage rises to increases in productivity.

The government has reported 70 strikes around the country, involving many thousands of workers, but industry sources say there are more.

The strikes represent the first time Yugoslav workers have tried by spontaneous industrial action to force the government to change a policy or law. Ministers insist the government will stand firm.

Tanjug said the West German magazine Der Spiegel was publishing the interview with Mr. Mikulic Sunday.

Mr. Mikulic, who very rarely gives interviews to the foreign press, has been out of the public eye for a week and this is his first direct public comment on the wave of industrial unrest.

He said there were people in Yugoslavia questioning the leading role of the ruling League of Communists (Communist Party).

"They want to push the League of Communists completely from the political scene. But that's an illusion," he said.

Irish rebel feud claims 11th victim

BELFAST (R) — A hooded gunman shot a man dead in a Belfast bar in what police believe may be the latest act in a violent feud within the outlawed left-wing Irish National Liberation Army (INLA) guerrilla group.

A police spokesman said the lone gunman walked into the mainly Catholic Hatfield bar a mile (1.6 kilometres) west of the city centre Saturday night and shot him in the head at point blank range.

The man was dead on arrival at a local hospital.

Feuding within the tiny Republican faction has claimed a dozen victims and left several others wounded since it began at Christmas.

Bush unveils shuttle memorial

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Vice President George Bush has presided over the unveiling of a national monument honouring seven Americans who died last year in the explosion of the space shuttle Challenger.

"The greatest tribute that we can pay the Challenger's brave crew and their families is to remain true to their purpose and to rededicate ourselves to America's leadership in space," Mr. Bush said at the ceremony at the Arlington National Cemetery.

"We will keep the programme alive. We will complete the great voyage. We will move into the exciting future with confidence," Mr. Bush told the families and friends of the seven astronauts who perished aboard the Challenger when it exploded 73 seconds after launch on Jan. 28 last year.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is planning a shuttle launch for sometime next year and the Reagan administration is seeking approval from Congress for funds to build an orbiting space station.

NASA chief James Fletcher added his own tribute to the seven. "Together they sought to know the unknown. Together they reached for the heavens and together they rest here now in eternal peace," he said.

The seven astronauts, whose images appeared carved in bronze on the front of the rectangular stone monument, were commanding officer Francis Scobee, mission specialist Judith A. Resnik and crew members Michael Smith, Ronald McNair, Ellison S. Onizuka and Gregory Jarvis.

Also on board was a school teacher from Concord, New Hampshire, Christa McAuliffe, who won a NASA competition to be the first "ordinary American" in space.

Meanwhile an advisory committee of scientists criticised the U.S. space agency's plans for a space station, saying the project should be overhauled to reflect funding cutbacks and other changes since the Challenger explosion.

The panel, chaired by Stanford University Professor Peter Banks, told NASA officials Friday that the agency could "lose an entire generation of space scientists" unless it changed both the station and the space transportation fleet.

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Indians go to polls in three key states today

NEW DELHI (R) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's leadership will undergo a test of political effectiveness as more than 54 million voters choose new governments in three key Indian states.

Campaigning ended Saturday night for Monday's elections in which 3,239 candidates will contest 505 state assembly seats in Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal and Kerala.

By-elections for two parliamentary and five state assembly seats also will be held in three other states.

Mr. Gandhi's Congress (I) Party is running in coalitions in Kerala and Jammu and Kashmir and is seeking to unseat the 10-year-old left front government in West Bengal, where the poll has taken on the aspect of a personality contest between Mr. Gandhi and Chief Minister Jyoti Basu.

The three elections also form a test of Mr. Gandhi's political leadership after a past few months which have seen him criticised on his handling of national affairs and the economy, and embroiled in a spat with President Zail Singh.

The Sunday Mail newspaper estimated Sunday that more than 50 people have been injured in pre-poll violence, most in Jammu and Kashmir and Kerala. Nearly 900,000 police will be mobilised for special election duty, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said.

Mr. Gandhi finished a month of frantic campaigning in south Calcutta Saturday night — he made nearly 70 campaign appearances in West Bengal — by telling a rally Mr. Basu's government was "wary and old and incapable of doing any work."

Mr. Basu in reply told repor-

ters in Calcutta: "It is dangerous for the country to have a prime minister who simply does not know how to speak the truth."

A poll published in Sunday's Hindustan Times newspaper gave Mr. Basu a 70 per cent "very good or good" approval rating to Mr. Gandhi's 58 per cent in the survey of nearly 800 West Bengal voters by the Indian Institute of Public Opinion.

Mr. Basu's Communist Party of India (Marxist) has ruled West Bengal since 1977 and often appears to be as much as manifestation of Bengali nationalism as Marxism.

Mr. Gandhi has promised an aid package worth more than \$750 million to the state but whether he can gain the loyalty of the state's 35 million voters remains to be seen. Of the 294 seats at stake, Congress (I) holds 56 and the left front 226.

In Jammu and Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state and which is disputed with Pakistan, the Congress (I) is running in coalition with the National Conference of Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah.

The coalition, resulting from a pact between Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Abdullah that put Mr. Abdullah in power, is being challenged by Muslim fundamentalists in the north of the state and Hindu hardliners in the south.

A pre-election survey by the mass circulation Indian Express gives the coalition the edge among the state's three million eligible voters for the 73 seats.

In southern Kerala, where the Congress (I)-led United Democratic Front is being challenged by a leftist coalition, both sides have fought hard for control the 138 seats in contention.

U.K. reportedly involved in nuclear modernisation

LONDON (R) — The British government has kept secret its part in a major modernisation programme of NATO nuclear weapons, according to a new study described in Sunday's Observer newspaper.

It said that while the plans had been publicly debated in the United States, British ministers and officials had repeatedly denied that modernisation of the arsenal was taking place.

A Defence Ministry spokesman said agreement on modernisation had been reached in principle but no decision had yet been taken on implementation.

"Implementation is still being considered within NATO. No decision has been taken as far as British nuclear weapons are concerned," he said.

The study, to be released shortly by the Bradford University School of Peace Studies, alleges that Britain secretly agreed to a NATO proposal in 1983 to produce about 2,000 weapons, including two new types of nuclear shells, a surface-to-surface missile and an air-launched cruise missile, according to the Observer.

The report, alleged to be based on material obtained under the U.S. Freedom of Information Act, says the decision to modernise the short-range weapons was taken at an October 1983 meeting of NATO defence ministers in Montebello, Canada.

The new weapons are to be paid for by United States but some of the delivery systems will be maintained by British troops, the report says.

Tutu, Tambo hold talks

LUSAKA (R) — Nobel peace Laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu says he has agreed to disagree on key issues with the African National Congress (ANC) guerrillas group.

Tutu, a leading anti-apartheid activist and the first black to head the Anglican Church in southern Africa, met ANC President Oliver Tambo and other leaders of the group, outlawed in South

Africa, for four hours in Lusaka Saturday.

"We agreed on some issues and disagreed on others," Tutu said.

A source close to the ANC, however, said the key issues discussed were the ANC's links with the South African Communist Party, violence among South African blacks and tactics for achieving a non-racial democratic government in South Africa.

Actor Robert Preston dies

LOS ANGELES (R) — Robert Preston, who made a career of playing the fast-talking band instrument salesman in the stage and screen versions of the Music Man, has died at the age of 68, a hospital nursing supervisor said.

Friends of the actor said Preston had been suffering from lung cancer for a long time. He entered Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital two days ago and died peacefully on Saturday, supervisor Elita Stutzer said.

Preston, after a long run of what he called often forgettable film roles, was nominated for — but didn't win — an Oscar at the age of 64 for his role of a homosexual night club performer in "Victor/Victoria," starring Julie Andrews.

But he was best known as the Music Man, in which he starred on Broadway for two years.

"I got the part after a lot of musical comedy leading men turned it down," Preston said.

When a film version was to be made after the stage show had been a hit across the United States and overseas, Warner Brothers Studio offered Preston the role to Cary Grant.

"Grant said, 'not only won't I play it, but if you don't use Preston, I won't go to see it,'" Preston said. "So I always have Grant to thank for the film of the Music Man."

Born Robert Masery on June 8, 1918, in Newton Highlands, Mass., Preston grew up in Los Angeles and was signed by the Paramount Studio when he was 19 after he appeared in a string of local stage productions.

He said he starred in three forgettable films, King of Alcatraz, Disbarred and Illegal Traffic,

before winning recognition by playing opposite Barbara Stanwyck in Union Pacific in 1939.

It was the first of three films he did for producer Cecil B. De Mille. The others were Northwest Mounted Police and Reap the Wild Wind.

He also appeared in Beau Geste, playing the self-sacrificing digby, before serving in the U.S. Air Force in World War II.

After the war, Preston starred with Alan Ladd in Wild Harvest in 1946 and, the following year, appeared in one of his favourite roles, as Joan Bennett's weak husband in the film version of the Macomber Affair.

But, he said, for the next 10 years he found he was often cast as the villain or the second romantic lead who lost the girl.

"Scripts I wanted went first to Fred MacMurray and, if he didn't want them, to Ray Milland," Preston said. "I was at the end of the line."

In 1951, he accepted the role as Jose Ferrer's replacement in a Broadway revival of the 1920s farce Twentieth Century and began a second stage career.

He played in the Male Animal on Broadway and the Tender Trap and Janus. But it was as the star of the Music Man, beginning in 1957, that he became known to millions.

After a career spanning almost 45 years and appearing in almost 40 films, Preston decided to take things easy. But he came back to films in SOB in 1980.

Married first to actress Kay Felton and then to actress Catherine Craig, Preston said he had one rule for actors: "You are a blessed man if you are working and doing things you like."

COLUMNS 768

Polio victim marks 25th year in iron lung

GENOA, Italy (AP) — Rosanna Benzi on Saturday celebrated her 25th year in an iron lung in a hospital room with friends, family and hundreds of telegrams. Miss Benzi, 39, has lived in the large metal respirator that encloses the entire body below the neck since a severe bout with polio in 1962 left her unable to breathe on her own. Miss Benzi is known all over Italy for the courage with which she has confronted her handicap. She has written a book entitled Will to Live, and founded and directs a magazine called the Others that deals with the problems of the handicapped. She told reporters that she feels at home in the iron lung at Genoa's San Martino Hospital. "I've been able to do things that everybody does, although of course, with a little more effort," she said.

European Disneyland pact to be signed

PARIS (AP) — The government said Saturday it will sign a final agreement this week with the Walt Disney Company on building Europe's first Disneyland amusement park. The park will be built in Marne-La-Vallee east of Paris for about \$2 billion and is scheduled to be completed in 1992. The office of Premier Jacques Chirac said in a statement the agreement will be signed Tuesday at the premier's office. "This signature is the successful conclusion of negotiations between the French partners and the Disney group," the statement said. The premier had asked the negotiator to assure the definition of the financial guarantees of the Disney group and taking into account the European and French cultures for the realisation of the project," it said. The French say they expect 20,000 jobs to be created during the construction phase and at least 30,000 jobs when the park opens. The French expect more than \$665 million in additional annual foreign currency earnings.

Parents of Afghan refugee boy found

KALAMAZOO, Michigan (AP) — A 7-year-old Afghan boy may be returning to his parents after a stay in the United States, where the war-wounded refugee quickly adopted the customs and language of his new home. Zia Ullah, who suffered lingering spinal injuries from a bomb blast in Afghanistan, was brought to the United States in June as part of a State Department airlift of injured Afghan refugees. The boy was scheduled to return to an Afghan refugee camp in Pakistan last month. But the non-profit agency sponsoring his visit, Heal the Children of Michigan, refused to place the boy on his scheduled flight out of the United States, saying all medical options for treating him hadn't been explored. The boy's U.S. foster family also expressed concern that the youngster's father might have been killed. But Fran Sullivan, an operations officer for the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration, which is running the Afghan airlift for the State Department, said Wednesday the youngster's parents have been found. Sullivan said previously that the boy's relatives would decide how long the youngster, who now speaks fluent English and attends school in Kalamazoo, would remain in the United States. Sullivan said relatives confirm that his father, an Afghan freedom fighter, and the boy's mother were both alive and living in Afghanistan.

Soviet journalist has liver transplant

LONDON (R) — Soviet journalist Victor Louis has had a liver transplant in Britain, hospital officials said. A spokesman for Cambridge University's Addenbrooke's Hospital said Louis, 58, underwent the transplant surgery nine days ago after being diagnosed as having primary liver cancer. He said Louis was making good progress and was transferred to London's Cromwell Hospital, where he was expected to convalesce for three or four weeks. Louis was admitted as a private patient and was likely to have paid £15,000 to £20,000 (\$24,000 to 48,000) for the operation, the spokesman added. He said Louis' English wife and one of his sons were at his side. Louis, regarded as an unofficial conduit for Kremlin viewpoints, writes for Western newspapers and enjoys friendly relations with Moscow-based Western correspondents.

20 jailed for hooliganism in Shanghai

PEKING (AP) — Two young workers have been given prison terms for hooliganism during pro-democracy student demonstrations in Shanghai, China's largest city. The Chinese News Agency Xinhua said Sunday that Wang Guoshan, a worker in a casting mill, received a five-year term and Xue Wenzeng, a trolley repair shop worker, was given three years in prison for inciting crowds and damaging a vehicle during demonstrations last December. The prosecution at a Shanghai court said Wang urged crowds in front of the Shanghai municipal building to attack police. It said that he and Xue instigated others to overturn a car, which they then attempted to set on fire. It said Wang continued to abuse police at another demonstration at a plaza in central Shanghai. Wang and Xue are among at least 14 people, all non-students, reported to have been arrested in connection with pro-democracy student demonstrations in more than a dozen Chinese cities in December and January.

China gives go-ahead for Shanghai subway

PEKING (R) — The Chinese government has approved plans to build Shanghai's first underground railway, the official Liberation Daily newspaper reported. Earlier this month Shanghai's Mayor Jiang Zemin told Reuters the construction of 14.4 kilometres of subway line was expected to cost around \$750 million. Shanghai hopes to obtain foreign loans on favourable terms to pay for the project, which is the biggest in a programme of public works intended to ease the city's chronically overloaded transport system, he said. British, French and Japanese firms have already approached the city authorities with proposals, the mayor added. The first line will run from the south-west of the city to a newly-built passenger railway station, the Liberation Daily said.

Former junta member commits suicide

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Gen. Odysseas Angelis, an army officer involved in a successful 1967 military coup, was found hanged in his cell on Sunday, a prison official reported. A guard on Sunday morning spotted the 75-year-old Angelis hanging from the ceiling of his cell in Korydallos Prison, located in an Athens suburb, said the official, who requested anonymity. Gen. Angelis was sentenced to life in prison along with other leading members of the army junta, a year after democracy was restored in July 1974. Following the 1967 coup, Gen. Angelis had served as chief of staff of the armed forces under dictator Col. George Papadopoulos who masterminded the overthrow. Col. Papadopoulos was toppled by his military police chief Brig. Dimitris Ioannides in November 1973.

Woman sentenced to death for 7 murders

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — A 35-year-old housewife was sentenced to death after being convicted of killing seven children by feeding them cyanide pills, court officials said Saturday. Officials of Pingtung district court, 380 kilometres south of Taipei, said Chen Lien-Yeh was sentenced Friday after she was found guilty of killing three boys and four girls last year. Some of the victims were children of friends and some were strangers, they said. They said Mrs. Chen was jealous because she was unable to have any more children because of an operation she had in 1974. She has a 14-year-old son, they said. The officials said she gave the pills to the children, aged seven to 13, in August and September, saying it was medicine their parents wanted them to take. Mrs. Chen was arrested in October after another boy, Lin Yu-Chieh, 10, became sick when he took a pill and was taken to a hospital where he implicated her. Lin was treated and discharged.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠K982 ♠78 ♠AQ85 ♠6762
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 2 ♠ 2 ♠

What do you do?

A.—The adventurous among you who play negative doubles would probably wheel out your new weapon. However, we prefer to try to penalize the opponents. So, if we were using the negative double we would pass and hope that partner would reopen with a double. If we were not employing that convention, we would double for penalties—we have excellent prospects of developing four or five tricks in our own hand.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AQ86 ♠85 ♠AJ63 ♠652
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?
A.—Thus far, you have done little to tell partner how strong you are and what excellent support you have for his first-bid suit. Partner has bid his hand to show a 3-4-5-1 distribution, so we would jump to six diamonds. We would be very surprised if it depended on more than a finesse.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠KJ72 ♠Q9842 ♠A ♠A107
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?
A.—You can make a good argument for a leap to four spades, but partner can have a pretty weak hand for his balancing bid in this position. You know he is short in hearts yet he did not have the

strength for a takeout double. Under the circumstances, we would start with a cue-bid of two hearts and then raise spades at our next turn.

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AK98 ♠J73 ♠AQJ5 ♠J105
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?
A.—You must show your great strength, and cleverly bidders might choose a false jump shift to two spades. However, to jump in a non-suit that is higher-ranking than the suit in which you want to play is fraught with danger. Our choice would be a leap to four hearts.

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AK ♠AJ65 ♠83 ♠KQJ65
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Dble 2 ♠ ?

What do you bid now?
A.—We feel your hand is too strong for a jump to four hearts. Our choice would be a cue-bid of three spades, which not only tells partner you are strong but conveys the information that you are prepared to play in at least two of the unbid suits.

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